

**Bumper
80 PAGE issue**

IN
COLOUR

LIVERPOOL & MORTON TEAM GROUPS

SHOOT!

40p

29th DECEMBER, 1979/5th JANUARY, 1980

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GRAY
WILKINS
ARDILES
WOODCOCK
CUNNINGHAM
CLEMENCE
McQUEEN
VILLA
McGRAIN
JOHNSTONE
VENABLES**

The Christmas present
Nottingham Forest don't
want to give away...
Anderson with the
European Cup.

**16
SUPER
KODAK
CAMERAS**
to be won in our
free entry
competition

**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS
FROM THE STARS**

**Full colour
CALENDAR
for 1980**

A Christmas special

IN line with many other national magazines, we've decided to produce a special 80-page issue to take you through Christmas and into the New Year.

As usual SHOOT has an all-star programme: an unbeatable line-up of the top names, the very best in action photos, many in colour.

We kick-off this bumper issue with greetings for YOU from the stars. Then we take you back through the Sizzling 70's and re-live the most memorable moments.

Spend a day with manager John Bond... read about the Celtic and Rangers stars of the future... go back to school with Eric Steele... enjoy the Highlights of '79... compare the characteristics of 12 players with their signs of the Zodiac... West Brom boss Ron Atkinson dreams of buying Kenny Dalglish and Trevor Francis...

Get up-to-date with the progress of England's soccer exports Kevin Keegan, Laurie Cunningham and Tony Woodcock.

Calendar

Included among our 16 pages of colour are Andy Gray fulfilling a dangerous dream... Ardiles and Villa at work and play... Liverpool and Morton team groups... Focus on Tony Currie and John Bailey... and a superb pull-out soccer calendar for 1980 featuring superstar Kevin Keegan.

There's also the chance to win super Kodak cameras... plus all your usual favourites, including our full line-up of columnists.

And news of a major transfer on page 74.

No wonder SHOOT is still THE number one in the soccer magazine League.

Our next issue, dated January 12th — on sale January 5th — will contain the first part of a full-colour F.A. Cup Wallchart.

It only leaves me on behalf of the entire staff to wish all readers, and everyone in football, a very Happy Christmas and a successful 1980... a year that promises to be more exciting and eventful than ever.

Peter Stewart

EDITOR

GREETINGS FROM THE STARS

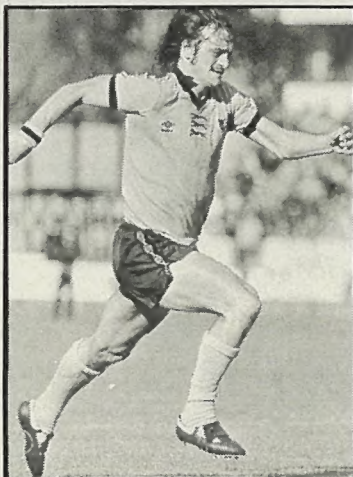


KEVIN BOND (Norwich)

NORWICH have really shown what we are capable of this season, and my Christmas wish is that we can maintain that form. The fans at Carrow Road have had something to cheer at last, and my message to them is that we all hope that they will have even more to celebrate by the end of the season. Norwich are good enough to qualify for the U.E.F.A. Cup, and we are determined to make it.

BARRY POWELL (Derby County)

THIS is for all the fans at the Baseball Ground — a few more points in the sack at Christmas and a climb up the ladder in 1980.



BRYAN ROBSON (Sunderland)

MY Christmas message is to wish every success to Sunderland and our supporters in the club's Centenary Year. There is a great football tradition at Roker which I hope is maintained in the future. And a word to West Ham fans — I had some happy years at Upton Park, and send my best to everyone there.

MIKE SMITH (Wales team manager)

CHRISTMAS still holds magic moments and I share these with my family. I wish all readers of SHOOT magazine Best Wishes for Christmas and I hope they continue to enjoy their football in 1980, especially through the pages of SHOOT.



BRIAN MOORE (Presenter of ITV's 'Big Match')

GOOD shooting and happy 'Big Match' watching to all SHOOT readers. I shall spend my Christmas toasting the success of England in the European Championship, Nottingham Forest in the European Cup, Arsenal in the Cup-Winners' Cup — and Gillingham in the Third Division. And a double-toast to true football fans everywhere who make my job such a happy one. Here's to 1980.

KENNY HIBBITT (Wolves)

MY Christmas wish is to those faithful fans of Wolves who have supported us when things were going wrong, and who have been cheered up a bit by our improved form this term. I wish them all the best and hope we can give them the winning results they deserve in the coming months.

TREVOR BROOKING (West Ham & England)

OBVIOUSLY the ideal Christmas present for West Ham would be promotion this season. We are beginning to show our true form and I would like to thank all the fans at Upton Park for their patience, and hope that we can deliver a belated present of a return to the First Division in May.



GEORGE PETCHEY (Millwall manager)

EVERYBODY at Millwall would like to wish all SHOOT readers a Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year, and say a special thank you to all our supporters, especially those who give us such tremendous support away from home.

KEVIN HIRD (Leeds)

I CAN only hope that all SHOOT readers have enjoyed 1979 as much as I have in my first season in Division One. Although Leeds have struggled to find their form this season, I am confident we can pick up and make a move up the table. Let's just hope that our opponents are full of the Christmas spirit and let us have eight very useful points.

JIM SMITH (Birmingham manager)

NATURALLY the best Christmas present of all would be to see Blues riding high at the top of the Second Division — preferably with a six point lead. But what I am looking for is the continuation of our present form.

MIKE FLANAGAN (Crystal Palace)

ALL I want for Christmas is a Rolls-Royce... Seriously, I'll be satisfied with a few goals and maximum points from our games against West Brom, Brighton, Middlesbrough and Norwich.

Most players read SHOOT, especially when they're travelling to away matches and get a real kick out of being featured in the magazine. So it gives me a real pleasure to send greetings to readers.

On behalf of all the lads at Palace I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and plenty to cheer in 1980.

MICKY BURNS (Middlesbrough)

CHRISTMAS for me means work. Unfortunately, professional footballers have to train on Christmas Day and play on Boxing Day, with the period between Christmas and the New Year being one of the busiest of the season. I would like to wish all readers of SHOOT a happy, peaceful, and above all a non-violent Christmas.

PAUL HEGARTY (Dundee United and Scotland)

I WILL be spending Christmas at home this year with my wife and son. My hopes for 1980 are for Dundee United to win a major honour, and to be once again included in the Scotland team, to avoid injuries and to be happy in life — in general.

IAN WALLACE (Coventry & Scotland)

CHRISTMAS is a crucial time for all footballers, and teams can guarantee a place in the top ten or suddenly find themselves fighting against relegation. Coventry have been a middle of the table side for too long, and it is about time that we won a major trophy.

GARY OWEN (West Bromwich Albion)

MY CHRISTMAS wish is that in future England will prove to the rest of the world that we are still a power to be reckoned with on the international scene. Under Ron Greenwood, England, the Under-21 and "B" teams are making good progress, and there is nothing I would like better than to see the improvement maintained.

JOHN HOLLINS (Arsenal)

A HAPPY Christmas to all SHOOT readers, and let's hope that 1980 will be as good a year for football as 1979 has been. There has been a terrific improvement in the general standard of the game. No foul play, a greater emphasis on open, attacking football and the skilful players are getting more of a chance.

LAWRIE McMENEMY (Southampton manager)

IF I were asked what presents I'd like for Christmas I'd have to say "A new stadium and home draws all the way to the F.A. Cup Semi-Finals."

We wouldn't mind the Semi-Final at The Dell but I doubt if the F.A. would agree somehow.

I'm fortunate to be manager of a smashing little club, but we do have the problem that if we're going to stay in the big-time and compete with the likes of Liverpool and Manchester United, we have to lose the "little" image and a new stadium would help us.

I don't ask for much do I?

Anyway to all SHOOT readers a Happy Xmas and an even happier New Year.

JOCK STEIN (Scotland team manager)

BEST wishes to SHOOT readers and a Merry Christmas to all.

KENNY BURNS (Nottingham Forest & Scotland)

1979 has been a tremendous year for Forest, and I should like to take this opportunity to thank all those fans at the City Ground who have backed us all the way. Here's hoping that 1980 will be just as successful. My main priority is to help Forest recapture the League Championship and retain the European Cup, but if we manage to take the F.A. and League Cups as well, I won't complain!

ARNOLD MUHREN (Ipswich & Holland)

THIS is my second Christmas in England and I will spend as much time as I can with my family. It is not so easy, however, with four important games in just 11 days. In Holland the football closes down for two weeks at this time of the year but here in England it gets busier than ever. I was surprised last year when we had to train at Ipswich on Christmas Day and I expect it will be the same this year. To SHOOT readers everywhere I send my greetings for a Happy Christmas.

DENIS LAW (Radio Commentator)

ALL the best to Manchester United, back where they belong at the top, to Huddersfield Town, my first English club, who are doing so well in the Fourth Division, to Aberdeen my home town club, and to Jock Stein in his efforts to rebuild Scotland. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year everyone.

PETER WITHE (Newcastle United)

PEOPLE say what a good life footballers have, but we never really have Christmas with our families. But I would not change it for the world. Finally I would like to wish all SHOOT readers a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year.

JIMMY ARMFIELD (Radio Commentator)

AT this time of course it's always better to look forward than look back, and I'm particularly excited as to what 1980 might bring. Ron Greenwood has done a tremendous job since he took over as England manager. We have genuinely promising players of the future and together with the established stars they stand a good chance in Italy next year. Let's wish every single one of those players all the best — a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

JOHN DUNGWORTH (Shrewsbury)

HAVING just moved from Aldershot to Shrewsbury these are pretty exciting times for me.

I'm looking forward to settling down in a new house and a new area with my wife Sheila, and to helping Shrewsbury Town make their presence felt in the Second Division.

I just hope I can repay the faith they have shown in me by scoring as regularly for Shrewsbury as I did for Aldershot.

Happy Christmas everyone,

And from four top foreign stars

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL FOOTBALL PLAYERS AND READERS OF "SHOOT" IN THE UNITED KINGDOM!

YOUR FRIEND

Sepp Maier

SEPP MAIER (West Germany)

BEST REGARDS FROM YOUR FRIEND

Dirceu

DIRCEU (Brazil)

LES DEBOS FELICES NAVIDADES

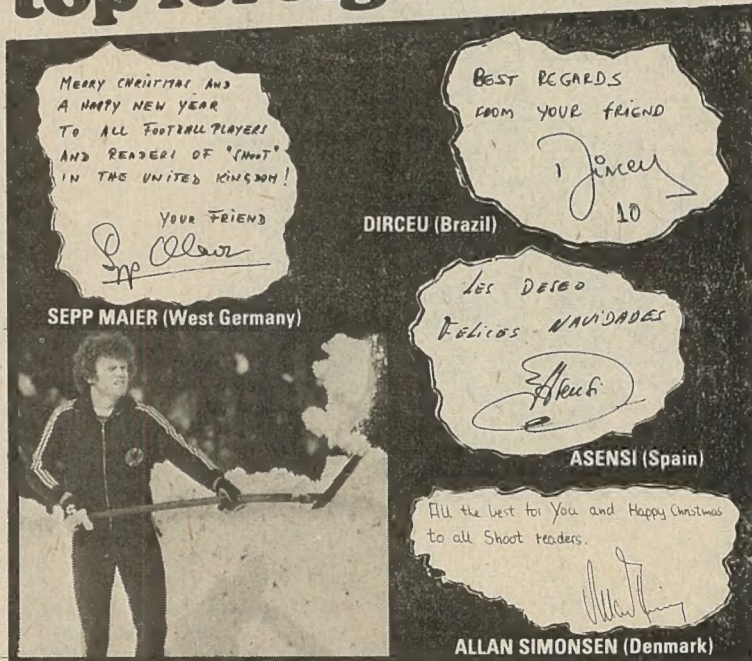
Asensi

ASENSI (Spain)

All the best for you and Happy Christmas to all Shoot readers.

Allan Simonsen

ALLAN SIMONSEN (Denmark)





As another decade draws to a close, SHOOT looks back over ten years of soccer and highlights the players, teams and personalities who captured the headlines during . . .

AS FAR as British fans are concerned, the 1970's just ending could be depicted as the "Decade of the Keegan"!

True, there have been other fine world superstars in the period. But the likes of Johan Cruyff and Franz Beckenbauer kicked-off their own illustrious careers before the 70's started, and then bowed-out from the top flight before they ended.

Our Kev, on the other hand, is very much a man of the times, from start to finish — not, that is, that he's finished yet.

He may have made his League debut with Scunthorpe, in the dying days of the 1960's, but — apart from being under surveillance by those crafty, never-miss-a-trick scouts from Anfield — who outside the steel town had even heard of him until his move to the big-time with Liverpool?

But, from then onwards, it wasn't to be long before it became clear that here was a player more than a cut above the average star — and whose name was destined to go down in soccer history alongside the all-time greats.

England's opening games of the

decade, though, saw other great stars still in command.

The two Bobbies, Charlton and Moore were each to pass Billy Wright's then record of 105 full caps, while Gordon Banks' recognition as the world's number one goalkeeper might well have been enhanced by a century of his own had not the tragic loss of an eye in a car accident cruelly cut short his tally at 73 while still going strong.

Lucky for England that waiting in the wings were two successors of the same superb capabilities in Ray Clemence and Peter Shilton — and one wonders how much longer would have been delayed their own deserved chance had Banksie been able to keep going.

For, whatever else English soccer may have lacked at times in the 1970's, it's never been a world-class 'keeper — a happy fact, internationally, but one which must bring on near-despair for any young aspirant hoping to dislodge them.

The start of the decade was O.K. for England at club level — for the first three years, in fact, we took both the European Cup-Winners',

The sizzling 70's



Kevin Keegan, European Footballer of the Year and undoubted superstar of the 70's.

Johan Cruyff (left) and Gordon Banks (above), two of the undisputed all-time greats of international soccer who suffered varying fortunes in the 1970's.



and U.E.F.A. or Fairs Cups — but rather less happy internationally.

Remember, England were still World Champions — and had high hopes of retaining the World Cup in Mexico in the first summer.

Sadly, our old 'enemies' from West Germany — the nation we'd beaten in the 1966 Final — fought back from an apparently hopeless 0-2 deficit to beat England 3-2 in the Quarter-Finals.

And, however deserved, it wasn't much comfort that Gerd Müller — the brilliant striker who carved the winner out of nothing in extra-time — was voted European Footballer of the Year!

Two years later Müller's teammate, the elegant Franz Beckenbauer, took the same award for 1972 — but 1971, 1973, and 1974 all went to Johan Cruyff.

Dramatic

One superstar doesn't make a nation, but the rise of Cruyff certainly coincided with the dramatic arrival of Holland in world soccer.

It was a Dutch club which took the European Cup for the first four seasons of the 70's — and the national side (which didn't even qualify in 1970) were beaten Finalists in the 1974 and 1978 World Cups.

Club-wise, at home, it was a period of change of stars, too.

Leeds, all-powerful — even if, strangely, so often missing-out at the very last fence — were gradually having to give way to a new surge from Liverpool as England's top side.

Both lost their star managers in 1974 — with the shock retirement of the legendary Bill Shankly, and the move of Don Revie to take over



from Sir Alf Ramsey as England supremo.

Each man had performed miracles — but, whereas Liverpool hit the jackpot straight away in wisely promoting Bob Paisley from the ranks to carry on where Shanks had left off, an assortment of well-qualified managers at Leeds has nonetheless never really plugged the gap left by Revie.

Revie, of course, in turn left a gap in the England management ranks by later deciding to pitch his tent in the desert.

When he upped and went — in circumstances which did little credit to anyone concerned — Brian Clough was the popular "peoples' choice" to take over.

True, as a younger man, Cloughie's turn may yet come. But, for the time being, it would take a very hard-to-please customer to argue against the choice of Ron Greenwood — with an inspiring record of only two single-goal defeats in his first 22 full internationals in charge.

Additionally — whereas Ramsey

maybe tried loyally to stick to the same players a shade too long; and, conversely, Revie sometimes chopped-and-changed about too much for comfort — Greenwood has struck a really happy balance.

Moreover, he has built up a "family atmosphere" in the squad second to none — with those not even on the subs' bench still feeling as much a part of the England set-up as the likes of Keegan slotting-in a winning goal.

Perhaps, though, the biggest change in the decade has been in the value of players — or, at least, in the sums clubs are prepared, or forced, to pay for the man they want badly enough.

On New Year's Day, 1970, the record British transfer fee was still the £165,000 that Leeds had paid to Leicester for Allan Clarke six months earlier.

On New Year's Day, 1980 — unless the Christmas spirit gets at some club's cheque-book in the next few days — it will be the cool £1½-million Wolves forked out for Andy Gray in September.

Even allowing for inflation now roaring on with frightening implications, can anyone honestly suggest that Gray is almost ten times more valuable than Clarke was?

Some of the most remarkable things of the 70's have been the



Ray Clemence and Peter Shilton (far left), fine successors to Gordon Banks. Gerd Müller scores against England for West Germany in the 1970 World Cup (left) while Holland's Jan Poortvliet scores in the 1978 Final (above).

transformation of certain star clubs.

In 1970, for instance, Huddersfield — one of the only two clubs ever to be League Champions three seasons running — were in the First Division. By 1975, as now, they were in the Fourth.

And what about the rise of Forest? True, in 1970, they were a First Division side.

But they soon dropped down to the Second, where they stayed till Clough brought them up in 1977.

But who, even then, would have picked out Forest to follow on Liverpool's successive European Cup triumphs just two years later?

As superbly successful club managers, Clough and Paisley — like Shankly and Revie before them — have dominated much of the last decade.

Youngsters

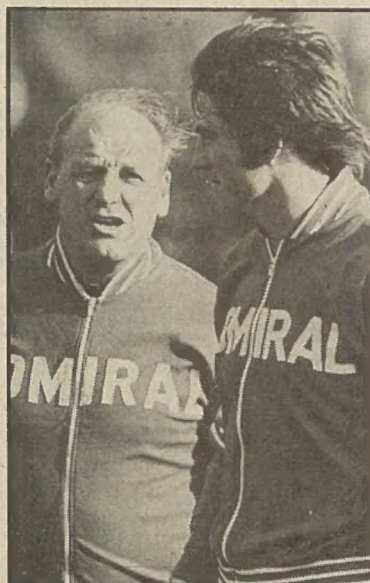
But what of the next? Anyone like to bet against up-coming "youngsters" like Terry Venables and Alan Mullery trying to pass them on the rails?

Crowd-wise, there was one big plus in the 1970's. And that was in the new regulations governing safety measures — even if, tragically, it took 66 deaths at a Rangers-Celtic derby at Ibrox in 1971 to force the authorities to face up to the potential dangers in the construction of some older grounds.

Unfortunately, there was also one big minus in hooliganism.

All too often, the 1970's saw comparatively harmless verbal barrages escalate into violent physical assaults — not only on

CONTINUED OVERLEAF



Bill Shankly (left) and Ron Greenwood (above), two managers with good cause to look back on the last decade with a great deal of personal satisfaction.



SHOOT columnist Andy Gray (left) and Emyln Hughes (above) with the European Cup. Established internationals who were both signed by Wolves this season.

The sizzling 70's

CONTINUED

the terraces, but in the streets outside.

And, although the vast majority of spectators are thoroughly decent folk aiming to enjoy a sporting few hours out, sadly all fans have come to be branded — at least, in the eyes of the less-enlightened — in the same category as the mindless morons.

Sir Harold Wilson once said that a week is a long time in politics — and ten years, in soccer, is a darned sight longer than Huddersfield's most famous supporter's seven days!

Even so, there are still some illustrious names around who've spanned that time.

Take the First Division's top scorer, with 28 goals, back in 1970-71. That was Tony Brown of West Bromwich — and he's still popping 'em in for the same club today.

And, prominent in England's sides in the first 12 months of the decade, were the likes of Emyln Hughes, Martin Peters, Alan Ball, Allan Clarke, and Roy McFarland.

All are still very much around today — the indestructible "Emmo" still in England squads this season; and 1966 World Cup-winning survivors Ball and Peters still performing heroics in the heat of 1979-80 First Division fray.

Debut

And, away from an English birth-right, there's a big-handed — though far from big-headed — Irishman named Pat Jennings who made his international debut as long ago as 1964... and can still take his place amongst the best goalkeepers in the world.

Some players seem to last forever. There's an "old man" named Ian Callaghan, for instance, who can still play a bit — but far less long-lasting are managers.

Their soccer lives, with a few notable exceptions, aren't nearly as lengthy — at least, without a few firings on the way.

Take away Bristol City's Alan Dicks (appointed in 1967), and Ipswich's Bobby Robson (1969), and not one of the present First Division clubs will have the same team-boss celebrating New Year's Day, 1980, as they had on New Year's Day, 1970.

And, going lower down the orders, the managerial massacre has been almost a complete new slaughter of the innocents.

Mind you, a lot of directors, the stay-put chaps who hire-and-fire the managers, have stayed-put during the last decade... and, come what may, probably will throughout the next!

Ironically, as the 1970's begin to fade from view, one name — the very toast of the town when the decade kicked-off — came back sharply into focus.

Spotlighting the soccer tragedy



Pat Jennings (left) and George Best (above). Two Northern Irish stars who will be remembered for a long time to come — but for vastly differing reasons.

— admittedly, from wounds largely self-inflicted — of a wayward little genius named George Best.

A lovable, if irresponsible, Irish imp, who was born with more talent in his twinkling feet than an army of text-book coaches could teach in half a century.

It was in the early days of 1974 that Bestie walked-out, for the last time, from Manchester United. After which followed a brief flirtation with Fulham; and a sampling of the affluent, if off-beat, Stateside soccer scene.

Yet, as 1980 approached, he came back to offer his talents once more to the British game he'd spurned.

In November he was signed by Hibernian, and even at the ripe old soccer age of 33 there is still hope that we shall see just a few more glimpses of the old Best magic.

Best was undoubtedly the player of the 60's, just as Keegan has

been his successor in the 70's. But who will be the big name of the new decade?

If present trends are anything to go by, he could well be a far-off superstar, for the current exodus of top British talent is currently one of the most pressing problems in the game.

Tony Woodcock has already departed for the Bundesliga with FC Cologne, and Arsenal's Liam Brady has confirmed that he will also become a soccer exile when his Highbury contract runs out at the end of the season.

But Glenn Hoddle (Spurs), Kevin Reeves (Norwich), Bryan Robson (West Brom), Graham Rix (Arsenal) and many other exciting young talents are still on the scene, and so is Kenny Dalglish at Liverpool. If these are indicative of the new breed of players coming through into our game, then the 80's will indeed be a decade worth looking forward to.



EUROPEAN FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR

- 1970 GERD MULLER (Bayern Munich)
- 1971 JOHAN CRUYFF (Ajax)
- 1972 FRANZ BECKENBAUER (Bayern Munich)
- 1973 JOHAN CRUYFF (Barcelona)
- 1974 JOHAN CRUYFF (Barcelona)
- 1975 OLEG BLOKHIN (Dynamo Kiev)
- 1976 FRANZ BECKENBAUER (Bayern Munich)
- 1977 ALLAN SIMONSEN (Borussia Moenchengladbach)
- 1978 KEVIN KEEGAN (Hamburger SV)

FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR

- 1969-70 BILLY BREMNER (Leeds)
- 1970-71 FRANK McINTOCK (Arsenal)
- 1971-72 GORDON BANKS (Stoke)
- 1972-73 PAT JENNINGS (Spurs)
- 1973-74 IAN CALLAGHAN (Liverpool)
- 1974-75 ALAN MULLERY (Fulham)
- 1975-76 KEVIN KEEGAN (Liverpool)
- 1976-77 EMLYN HUGHES (Liverpool)
- 1977-78 KENNY BURNS (Forest)
- 1978-79 KENNY DALGLISH (Liverpool)



Kenny Dalglish (left) and Liam Brady (above), superstars in every sense of the word. Dalglish's future with Liverpool looks assured, but Brady is set to start the 80's abroad.



C&G Soccer Club

Soccer Colleges 1980



These are of 5 days duration, and are designed for the younger player who has a desire to improve his ability, and is prepared to work hard to the end. The Courses are arranged during the school holidays so as to interfere as little as possible with the boys' schooling. The College Course is varied in content, the programme has been devised by the C&G Coaching Staff and will bring each youngster to his maximum potential. The Courses are all residential and include bed and full board.

A TYPICAL COLLEGE PROGRAMME

	9.00 - 10.30	10.45 - 12.15	2.00 - 3.30	3.45 - 5.15	6.15 - 8.00
MON.	Arrive by 10.30 am	Coaching: Basic Kicking	GAME	Coaching: Basic Control	5-a-Side Soccer Comp.
TUES.	Coaching: Heading	Coaching: Small games with ball.	Coaching: Shooting	GAME	FILM 'PELE'
WED.	Coaching: Tackling	Coaching: Dribbling	A VISIT TO A LEAGUE CLUB'S TRAINING SESSION		5-a-Side in Gymnasium
THURS.	Small Game Attack V Defence	Coaching: Unusual Skills Session	'STAR PLAYER' WILL ATTEND FOR AFTERNOON		'Head Tennis' in Gymnasium
FRI.	GAME vs A TOP SIDE IN THE AREA		Presentation of Prizes & Certificates		

LIST OF VENUES 1980

Venue	Date	Price
AMERSHAM	FEB. 18th - 22nd	£61.00
AMERSHAM	APR. 14th - 18th	£61.00
AMERSHAM	MAY 26th - 30th	£61.00
DUNDEE	JUL. 7th - 11th	£68.00
LIVERPOOL	JUL. 21st - 25th	£68.00
MANCHESTER	JUL. 21st - 25th	£68.00
LIVERPOOL	JUL. 28th - AUG. 1st	£68.00
MANCHESTER	JUL. 28th - AUG. 1st	£68.00
CHELTENHAM	JUL. 28th - AUG. 1st	£61.00
CHELTENHAM	AUG. 4th - 8th	£61.00
COLCHESTER	AUG. 4th - 8th	£68.00
COLCHESTER	AUG. 11th - 15th	£68.00
OLLERTON	AUG. 11th - 15th	£61.00
OLLERTON	AUG. 18th - 22nd	£61.00
NOTTINGHAM	AUG. 18th - 22nd	£68.00
NOTTINGHAM	AUG. 25th - 29th	£68.00
AMERSHAM	OCT. 27th - 31st	£61.00



Trevor Brooking (West Ham & England). Seen here with a group of boys during one of the courses.



A dream moment for one Club Member being photographed here with **Steve Heighway** (Liverpool & Eire) during a Soccer College.



"I attended a C & G Soccer College and never looked back." **Steve Williams**, Southampton & England.

STEVE HEIGHWAY
STEWART HOUSTON
BRYAN HAMILTON
MICK MILLS
BRUCE RIOCH
MARTIN O'NEILL

BRIAN TALBOT
DAVEY JONES
JOHN HOLLINS
ROY McFARLAND
TERRY YORATH
STEVE WILLIAMS

TERRY YORATH
BRIAN KIDD
DAI DAVIES
DAVID NISH
TREVOR BROOKING
JOHN ROBERTSON

EDDIE GRAY
CHRIS NICHOLL
CLIVE WOODS
JOHN DEEHAN

Gary Johnson
C & G Super Soccer Club
Godolphin House
The Avenue
Newmarket
Suffolk CB8 9AA
Tel: (0638) 5750
Telex: 817423

MEET AND TRAIN WITH STAR PLAYERS AT OUR COLLEGES

SEND FOR YOUR BOOKING FORM AND FURTHER INFORMATION RIGHT AWAY — AND HAVE A WEEK YOU WILL NEVER FORGET. SEND S.A.E.

Once upon a time December 25th provided fans with some real...

CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

DO you remember those beautiful wintry days when we all used to wrap up in our newly acquired sweaters, scarves and overcoats and make the annual pilgrimage to the local match of the day — on December 25th?

Yes Christmas Day — if you're under the age of about 25 you'll think we're talking rot, or else we've been having a premature tippie, but it's right. Up until 1957 there was a full programme of Football League games — and in general they produced some of the biggest gates of the season.

It was the highlight of the year for many folk. It might be their annual trip to Old Trafford or even Gresty Road, but at least it was an alternative to the local panto or indulging in too much food and drink.

And the football was never dull.

Christmas Day matches had a reputation for providing something extraordinary. Whether it was because the players felt they had to be in festive mood, or whether it was because they'd been indulging behind the manager's back no one ever quite knew, but there were some really remarkable scorelines guaranteed on Christmas Day.

Just look what happened in 1957 for instance. At Stamford Bridge the visitors of the day were Portsmouth — sensible enough because the League did try to ensure that no club had too far to travel.

Unthinkable

Even so it was an unhappy journey for Pompey. A young Chelsea striker by the name of Jimmy Greaves ran riot with four goals in a 7-4 romp. That sort of scoreline today would be unthinkable.

On the same day but in more Northerly quarters Blackpool, complete with Matthews and Mortensen, gave their fans a real Christmas cracker of a present with five goals against Leicester City, but up at Newcastle the locals went home feeling quite ill, not because of the rich Christmas pudding, more by the nature of Nottingham Forest's 4-1 win at St. James' Park.

There were often freak results on Christmas Day, and more often than not clubs who were pitted together on Christmas Day and Boxing Day, inevitably won one encounter apiece.

Tom Finney, that prince of wingers at Preston, recalls vividly one year when the League weren't so kind to the men from Lancashire and had them playing Chelsea home and away on successive days.

"We travelled down to London on Christmas Eve, and then after playing at Stamford Bridge, we all trooped to the station — both teams — and headed back North for the return fixture on Boxing Day.

"We all ate together on the train — what a strange way to spend

Jimmy Greaves



Derek Dooley

Christmas Day, eating turkey and cranberry sauce with your opponents.

"I remember we all chatted about the match we had just played, and conjectured on who was going to win the next day!

"The comradeship between the teams was much greater then, and I suppose the results weren't quite so important either.

"It really was strange how you could go out and whack a team by five goals one day and then find yourselves on the receiving end of a similar lashing from the same team 24 hours later. That seemed to happen almost as a matter of course.

"I think footballers today are very lucky not to have to play on Christmas Day. For most of my career I was never able to have Christmas lunch with my family, because I was always away travelling or playing football, and that was something I really missed.

Stanley Matthews



Stan Mortensen

"We all just took it in our stride because it was part of the traditional fixture list and I suppose we regarded ourselves as part of the Christmas entertainment, but nobody really thought about the players and their private lives in those days," says Finney.

Raich Carter, that wizard of an inside-forward who graced the scene for so many years, remembers the Christmas of 1935 in particular.

"Sunderland had to play Leeds United twice on successive days, and at that time we were both going well. We had two absolutely superb battles with each club winning once and then on the following Saturday we pipped Arsenal 5-4 in another belter of a

game, so it was a memorable Christmas for us," he recalls.

That was a high scoring game all right but there were other Christmas spectacles which scaled even greater heights.

On the Saturday before that very last series of Christmas Day matches Charlton Athletic met Huddersfield Town.

It was a Second Division match at The Valley. When we tell you that at one stage Huddersfield were leading 5-1 (not bad for the away team) you may be shocked, but although not quite the norm it was a less astounding scoreline in those days than it would be today.

But then a striker by the name of Johnny Summers, sadly dead now, took a hand. He stunned Huddersfield by scoring FIVE times, the last goal coming on the stroke of time, and amazingly what had seemed a runaway victory for the Yorkshiremen turned into a very sour 7-6 defeat!

Many a centre-forward enjoyed himself over the Christmas period, none more than one Bunny Bell who turned out for Tranmere Rovers against Oldham Athletic on Boxing Day, 1935.

What happened in the next 90 minutes was pure fiction — except that it's fact because you will still read in any football records book that Bunny Bell scored NINE of Tranmere's 13 goals in a 13-4 nightmare for Oldham.

Bell scored 104 League goals in his career at Tranmere — mind you it only spanned five years — but he remains Tranmere's record goalscorer to this day.

Wanderer

There are some players who always seemed to get itchy feet at Christmas, in particular Frank Large, who must hold some record for the most number of clubs.

Frank wandered around the League from Halifax to Queens Park Rangers, on to Northampton, then Swindon and Carlisle, Oldham next, then back to Northampton, on again to Leicester and Fulham before his third spell at Northampton and finally to Chesterfield — and nearly always he moved at Christmas.

"It was generally the time of year when I'd had three or four months of the season at a club and I was beginning to fancy a move. Besides I always felt a move gave a goalscorer a new lease of life. You'll find a lot of goalscorers move around, because they possess a knack that's always in demand."

Other people have more bitter recollections of Christmas like Derek Dooley who was sacked as manager of Sheffield Wednesday on Christmas Eve, and of course there were players in the old days who refused to play on Christmas Day on religious grounds.

In many ways it's sad that we no longer have football to offer as part of the entertainment on Christmas Day, but the footballers of today deserve the day off as much as anyone else, and we're sure nobody can begrudge them a well-earned break.



PORTSMOUTH

JOE LAIDLAW

IN our November 24 issue, we featured John Lathan as Portsmouth captain, unaware that the former Pompey favourite had returned to Mansfield earlier in the season. Our apologies to all Portsmouth fans, and to make amends we would like to take this opportunity to spotlight the new skipper at Fratton Park — Joe Laidlaw. Joe's career started with Middlesbrough, and the hard-working midfielder made 111 League appearances for them before a transfer to Carlisle. He

soon established himself at Brunton Park, and scored 44 times in more than 150 League games. Three seasons ago Joe was sold to Doncaster, where he once again completed his century of League games before signing for Portsmouth in the summer. Joe Laidlaw's experience is proving invaluable to Portsmouth in their attempt to return to the Third Division and manager Frank Burrows is convinced that Joe was one of the shrewdest signings of the year.

HEARTS

JIM
JEFFERIES

HEARTS fans haven't had a great deal to cheer in recent seasons, but one exception has been the form of long-serving captain and defender Jim Jefferies, a model of consistency. The Tynesdale men stand a great chance of gaining promotion to the Premier Division at the end of the season, and manager Willie Ormond will be building his team plans around players such as Jefferies, who signed for the club ten years ago from Junior club Gala Fairydean. Hearts have been relegated twice in the last three years, but Jefferies is confident that the club will not record an unwanted hat-trick if he succeeds in leading them back into Scotland's top ten this season.



PL

OFFICIALS ONLY



HEREFORD UTD.

JOHN LAYTON

COMPETITIVE defender now in his second spell at Edgar Street. First came to Hereford from school in 1967, when the club were still making a name for themselves in the Southern League, but by the time election to the Football League had been secured in 1972, John had left for non-League Gloucester City without making a first team appearance. Yet although he had been released by former manager Colin Addison, the club were still keeping a careful eye on the progress being made by the solidly-built

centre-back. After a spell with Kidderminster Harriers, John returned to Hereford in 1974 as a part-time professional, and he soon made his League debut after a seven year wait. At the start of the season John Layton had made 165 League appearances and scored 13 goals for Hereford, and now he is hoping that he can captain the side to promotion back to the Third Division and help arrest the slide which took the club down two Divisions within two years.



MAN.

UTD.

MARTIN BUCHAN

JOINED Aberdeen straight from school, and spent six years with his local club before a transfer to United in 1972.

Central defender Martin had already won two full Scottish caps by this time, and quickly settled in at Old Trafford.

Buchan's cool and calculated play at the centre of the United defence soon earned him one of the most coveted captaincies in the game, and along with Gordon

McQueen forms one of the most respected partnerships both for club and country. Led the side to victory in the 1977 F.A. Cup Final when United shattered Liverpool's dreams of a unique League Cup and European Cup treble, and returned to Wembley last season against Arsenal.

Martin has now won nearly 40 full caps for Scotland, and his outstanding consistency has helped United mount their first serious League Championship challenge for many years.

**PAUL
POWER**



MAN. CITY

SINCE succeeding Tony Book as Manchester City team manager earlier in the year, Malcolm Allison's frequent excursions into the transfer market have been one of the game's major talking points. The City line-up this season barely resembles that which finished the last, but one man who remains a permanent fixture at Maine Road is team captain Paul Power. Locally-born, Paul's first three years with the club were on an amateur basis while he studied at University, and it was not until July, 1975, that he finally signed as a professional for

the club. Within a year had quickly settled into the City midfield, his arrival coinciding with Colin Bell's injury troubles. At the start of the present season Paul had made 109 League appearances for the club, and the emergence of Steve MacKenzie as one of the most promising youngsters in the game is due in no small part to Power's steady influence in the middle of the park. Malcolm Allison at last appears to have settled on his best team, in which Paul Power is very much the key man, as City prepare for a return to the glory days.

**GEORGE
STEWART**



HIBERNIAN

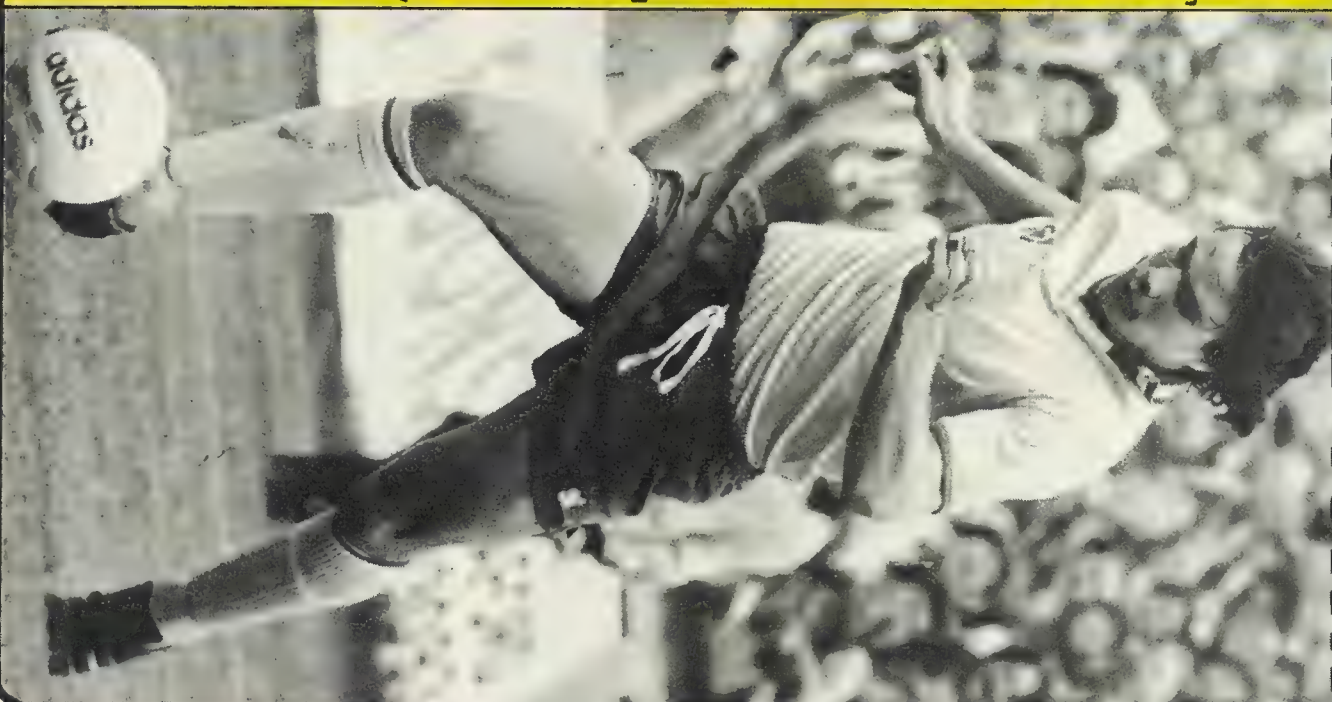
HIBS manager Eddie Turnbull is well known as being a shrewd judge of soccer character. He expects professional footballers to be dedicated to the game and his club captain, George Stewart, is one such player. Stewart, bought from Dundee for £30,000 in 1976, is proving to be one of Turnbull's best-ever buys and the Easter Road boss has picked up some good bargains in the transfer market over the years. The tall, well-built Stewart is an ideal skipper. He has authority, he is a dedicated club man and a natural leader. It is a pity that such a

player does not have a trophy cabinet crammed with medals. He came so close last season when he captained Hibs in their three Scottish Cup Finals against Rangers at Hampden. Stewart was a model of consistency in all those matches, but had to be content with a runners-up medal when Arthur Duncan deflected a cross into his own net for the winner in a 3-2 thriller. Still, Stewart realises there cannot be too many skippers in the game today who have actually captained their club in three Cup Finals inside a fortnight!

HUDDERSFIELD TOWN

PETER HART

IN 1972 Huddersfield Town were a thriving First Division club with a big future. Now they are a Fourth Division side with hopes of renewed success. The demise of Huddersfield has been one of the most dramatic tales in recent soccer history, but under the captaincy of dependable defender Peter Hart they have made a fine start to the season and are once again challenging for promotion. Peter joined Huddersfield from school in 1974, and made club history when he appeared in the League side for the first time when only 16 years old. Since that time he has added nearly 200 more League appearances, and was the club's only ever-present last season. Although he had scored only three League goals up to the start of the season, manager Mick Buxton is quick to realise the true worth of Peter Hart to the Huddersfield cause.



MANSFIELD TOWN

KEVIN BIRD

AFTER winning the Fourth Division Championship in 1975 and Third Division title in 1977, the future looked rosy for Mansfield Town. But the Field Mill club lasted only one season in the Second Division, and last season struggled to avoid relegation once again. Kevin Bird has known only disappointment in his two seasons as Mansfield captain, and is determined to arrest the club's alarming slide. Kevin's career started with his home-town club Doncaster Rovers, but the young defender was still awaiting his League debut when given a free transfer in July, 1972. Mansfield were quick to realise his potential, and signed him immediately. Within six months of his arrival, Kevin was a Mansfield regular, and he has now played more than 250 League games for the club.



'A BOXING DAY SELL-OUT'



**Ray
Clemence**
TALKING
SOCCER

*'Man. United deservedly beat us in
last season's F.A. Cup replay'*

FOR most people Christmas and the New Year are times for no work and all play. But for footballers it's a question of all work and the only play is on the pitch.

And for Liverpool players, faced with three away games out of the four scheduled during the holiday period, the work is sure to be of the hard variety.

Not one of us will be eating that extra piece of plum pudding, drinking one drink too many, or indulging in a late night. Our professionalism would not allow it.

By now we're all conditioned to the fact that we cannot allow ourselves to join wholeheartedly in the festivities because this is a crucial part of the football season — results can decide the final placings at the end of the season.

Stacked

There are eight points at stake, and although the odds are stacked against us winning them all, we start with that aim in mind.

All three of our away games are against Midlands opposition. On Saturday, December 22nd, we travel to Derby to play at the Baseball Ground. The coach trip usually takes around two and a half hours.

Derby, once amongst our fiercest rivals for honours, have gone through a bad patch in which they've struggled to maintain a First

Division place. This was partly due to boardroom problems, which seem to have been settled, and the team, under manager Colin Addison, are now playing very well.

It's hard for a team to concentrate when there's an unsettling atmosphere within a club.

Their most impressive result so far was an amazing 4-1 home win over Nottingham Forest. Not many teams can boast of having put four goals past my England colleague Peter Shilton.

At one time the pitch at the Baseball Ground was amongst the worst in the First Division, with a playing surface that often resembled a bog. However, since it was relaid at the cost of several thousands of pounds, it has improved tremendously, although it's still not up to the standard of those at Manchester United and Ipswich Town.

Our next game is a certain sell-out, as it's on Boxing Day against Manchester United, the only club to rival Liverpool for glamour and fanatical support.

Reader Ciaran Connolly has written complaining that I'm biased against Manchester United, that I do not give the team or its players the credit they deserve. I'm sorry, Ciaran, if I've given that impression at times in my columns, but I do assure you I have enormous respect for the Old Trafford club, and

everyone connected with it.

You say you suspect I'm still smarting over United's victory over us in last season's F.A. Cup Semi-Final. You're right — but it's not because I feel we were robbed!

It was our own fault we didn't win the first tie and deserved to lose to a brilliantly-taken Jimmy Greenhoff goal in the replay.

I was not surprised at United's fine start to the season that took them to the top of the table. What has amazed me is that a team whose game is based on non-stop "90 mph football" from first whistle to last has maintained good results now that grounds are becoming heavy.

Disciplined

Under manager Dave Sexton, United have become more disciplined at the back, which may have something to do with their fine run, but there's no way they'll come to Anfield simply to defend, as some teams do, including Spurs.

In preparation for the game, we'll even train on the morning of Christmas Day. I'll then go back to my family for the traditional turkey dinner and spend the rest of the day playing with my daughters Sarah and Julie and son Stephen.

By the way, I'd like to thank all those readers who sent us Christmas cards. We really appreciate them.

On the following Saturday, December 29th, it's away to The Hawthorns to play West Bromwich Albion, a side who always press us to the limit. Even after a good result against them, you'll find us slumped in heaps around the dressing-room.

As I predicted at the start of the season, Albion found it difficult to motivate themselves after the mighty efforts of last season failed to produce a single trophy as a reward.

On New Year's Day we have a date with Stoke City at the Victoria Ground. Judging by their performances so far they will achieve what must be the first priority of any promoted side: consolidation of a place in the First.

As I've already stated, Liverpool will be setting out to collect maximum points from our four-match programme. Another impossible dream? Time will tell.

Join me again in the next SHOOT when I'll be talking about my hopes and fears for 1980.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Ray Clemence

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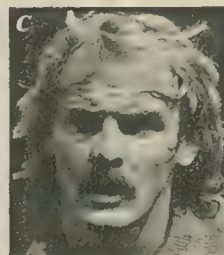
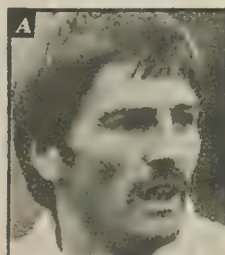
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2. The England internationals below have played in the West German League this season. Who are they?



3. The camera cannot lie, or can it? What's odd about this picture taken at Highbury in the game between Arsenal and Wolves this season?



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KEEGAN

CUNNINGHAM



**Decision
time for
Kevin**



**Laurie's
reputation
is slipping**

THE festive season can mean different things to different people, but mostly it's a time to relax with family and friends. And Britain's two most famous footballing exiles will be no exception — though both Kevin Keegan and Laurie Cunningham will be keeping a close eye on the calendar to make sure they aren't in danger of exceeding the tax man's limit of 90 days per year in the U.K.!

While Britain's footballers are flogging their way through the hectic Christmas and New Year fixture programme, Kevin will be making the most of the winter-break enjoyed by players in the West German Bundesliga.

Laurie has only a one-week rest, and his festivities may be slightly more hurried as he has to report back for training on Boxing Day — which is not a public holiday in Madrid.

But as they put up their feet and demolish a few mince pies, both players will have the chance to take stock of 1979 and cast a few thoughts forward to the 80's.

The odds are Keegan will be doing a good deal more thinking than Laurie. As everybody is only too aware, his contract with Hamburger SV expires at the end of this season, and he has promised a decision on his future "by Christmas". It remains to be seen whether he keeps his word or not, because the options open to the 28-year-old star are so diverse that he may need more time to make up his mind.

And having announced his intention of retiring after the 1982 World Cup in Spain, he is well aware that the contract he signs in 1980 could be his last as an active footballer (but we wonder if he'll 'retire' to the United States) and obviously this is an important decision, not one to be rushed.

As Kevin and his wife, Jean, tuck into the Christmas pudding, with baby daughter Laura Jane looking on, they may be tempted to take the easy way out — to stay comfortably installed in their £240,000 superhouse near Hamburg and to continue with the West German Champions.

Looking back over the last couple of seasons, Keegan must realise with misgivings that the moment his form drops below 'a 10/10' level, he immediately reverts in the eyes of many German people to being 'an overpaid foreigner'.

A spell of indifferent form early in the season earned him some acid comments from the German Press and he certainly won't have forgotten the sheer misery that surrounded his Christmas two years ago, when he found himself totally rejected by team-mates.

Jealousy

In the meantime, clubs are jostling in the queue to add Keegan to their squad lists. The Press has publicised offers from English clubs, but one wonders whether the English game is yet ready to offer wages in excess of £10,000 a week without inspiring jealousy and resentment among the other players.

And even a £1 million offer may not attract Kevin and Jean to the politically unstable Middle East. He's unlikely to become a better player by going for fistfuls of dollars in the United States. In Europe, the Italians are keen on Keegan, but even zillions of lire may not attract Kevin to the cynical Italian League.

As SHOOT has consistently revealed in recent months, Spain is his most likely destination.

HSV's 'upstairs' manager, Günter Netzer, has been doing the rounds of Spain's top clubs suggesting a number of possible deals. Real Madrid have initially said "no" to an exchange deal involving their German midfielder Uli Stielike — so Netzer promptly asked Valencia if they are interested in a deal involving THEIR German midfielder Rainer Bonhof in a move that, if it came off, could bring Kevin Keegan and Mario Kempes together in an explosive combination of top talent.

Even so, as we revealed a few weeks ago, the most attractive proposition is likely to come from Barcelona, who are keen to offload Hans Krankl or Allan Simonsen in part exchange. Whatever the final decision, the Keegan family won't be short of talking points as they see in an important and crucial New Year.

Laurie Cunningham must be feeling as though he's out on a limb after five months in Madrid. Whereas Keegan has established an international reputation by succeeding abroad, by being elected European Footballer of the Year; and by turning in excellent performances in the England shirt, the name of Cunningham has gently slipped from the back pages.

Real's refusals to release him for England matches have robbed him of international projection and a chance to establish his name as a genuine international-class player. And, looking back over 1979, he'll be reflecting on a yo-yo year with the financial bonanza of a £100,000 a year contract with Real followed by a period of 'stagnation'.

So whereas Kevin Keegan has emerged as a better player after his move to Germany, Laurie Cunningham may find his move to Madrid has ended his England career.

GRAY'S REGRET

ANDY GRAY wishes he had worked harder at school. He gained eight GCE 'O' level passes but did not bother too much with his 'A' levels and failed them.

He said: "At the time I didn't think they were important, but now I know different. I've made a few mistakes in my time and that was one of them."

Aspiring young stars please note . . .

FULHAM'S Scottish star winger Peter Marinello always plays with his shorts inside out. The reason? He put them on the wrong way round by mistake when making his debut for the club — and had such a good game he decided it was a lucky omen.

Crawford's a bargain

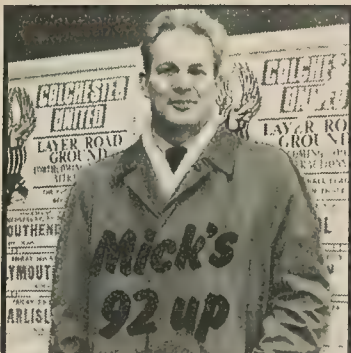
CHESTERFIELD manager Arthur Cox reckons he purchased a real snip in £30,000 winger Alan Crawford, from Rotherham.

"Alan's a natural winger and a proven scorer," says Cox. "I rate him a very good buy at the price."

Rotherham-born Crawford, first joined his local club ten years ago, but seven months after signing professional in June, 1972, he was allowed to go on loan to Mansfield.

In the next two full seasons at Rotherham he managed only 13 League goals, but came into his own in 1976-77, finishing top scorer on 23. The following season it was seven goals from 26 appearances and last season saw him suspended by manager Jim McGuigan when he refused to play in the reserves. He then failed to regain his first team place and was transfer listed.

Now the 25-year-old Crawford has the incentive to really hit form at the Recreation Ground for a Chesterfield side which only just held on to a Third Division place last season.



IPSWICH and Colchester football supporter, 44 year-old Mick Field must be East Anglia's top soccer fan.

Mick of Green Lane, Parson's Heath, Colchester, has visited every ground of the 92 teams in all four Divisions of English football.

He has seen all the teams playing on their home grounds and has the programmes to prove it.

A sales demonstrator with the Colchester Lathe Company, he completed the round-up of all the clubs recently with a visit to Walsall.

And travelling abroad for his company has given him the opportunity to visit some famous Continental clubs including AEK Athens, Ajax, Austria Wien and Feyenoord. He has also visited several Scottish grounds.

His two sons — both Ipswich fans — accompany him on several trips and to date Jeremy, 15, has visited 56 grounds while 13-year-old Simon has visited 26. And colleague Barry Lilley from Walton-on-the-Naze has six more grounds to visit before equalling Mick's sporting achievement.

Mick first became a supporter when Colchester played in the Southern League. His travels began during the famous 1947/48 F.A. Cup run when The U's beat Wrexham, Huddersfield and Bradford before eventually losing to Blackpool.

Mick — who has also followed Ipswich since they were in Division Three said: "My wife often tells me — we could easily have bought a new house with the money I have spent on football."

NEWS

Compiled by
BILL DAY



DESK

Bremner blames Scotland's strikers

FORMER Scotland and Leeds skipper Billy Bremner reckons the country's strikers should shoulder their share of the blame for recent international failings.

Billy, now successful boss of Fourth Division Doncaster Rovers, reckons failure to score enough goals has cost Scotland as dear as any of the highly-publicised goalkeeping failures.

Says Billy: "Goalkeeper has been a bit of a problem position for us — possibly because very few youngsters are eager to go in goal North of the border."

"That probably isn't too surprising — for its size Scotland has produced more gifted ball players than any other nation."

"But there is no doubt we should be scoring more goals — especially at Hampden Park where we tend to swamp the opposition and create plenty of chances."

"The trouble is that we do not stick enough of those chances away — and it is happening time after time."

Billy believes that this failure to score creates problems for the Scotland defence — and especially the goalkeeper.

He says: "Don't forget that defenders tend to tense up when they see their attackers failing to score at the other end. And that is when they make tragic mistakes and let in opponents for daft goals."

"If we were scoring enough goals, giving the odd one away would not matter as much as it does now. It is something that needs to be put right if Scotland are to advance in world football."

● Billy receives his first Bell's award after he was named the Fourth Division's Manager of the Month.



ACHIM Umar Khatab, an 11-year-old Pakistani-born schoolboy, reckons he could be the "keepie uppie" Champion of Scotland.

Achim, who plays for the Parkway Boys' Club team in Denny, Stirling, has kept the ball in the air with his feet, knees and head an amazing 2,554 times. Any challengers?

THE next session of unity talks between the two Irish Associations is fixed for Dublin on January 9th.

BURY goalkeeper Dave Latchford, the former Birmingham and Motherwell star, still has a soft spot for the team of youngsters he helped form — Northfield Blues who play in Division Two of Birmingham's Oakbourne Sunday League.

Dave, a keen youth worker, spent many hours training and advising the players when he was at St Andrews and he still goes to see them play whenever he is in the Birmingham area.

'Losing Dobson a blow' — Lee

AFTER they had finished third and fourth in the past two seasons, it came as a shock to Everton to find themselves perilously close to the relegation zone this year. And while relegation for the Merseyside giants is almost laughable, remember how the mighty Manchester United had a season in Division Two not so long ago?

There have been so many changes at Goodison Park this season that Everton have inevitably lacked cohesion. As Gordon Lee points out: "My players are still getting to know each other."

Eight players have made their debut for the club in 1979/80 so far, while Colin Todd, Dave Thomas, Martin Dob-

son and Mike Pejic have all left.

"Losing Martin was a blow," says Lee. "He was vital to us. I wanted him to stay, but he was at the end of his contract and wanted to play out his career without the sort of intense pressure we have here."

Defender Mike Lyons and goalkeeper George Wood, first-choices last season, have been dropped.

"Mike wasn't playing well, so I gave Billy Wright and Mark Higgins a chance in the centre of our defence. They've done a good job. I'm sure Mike will be back, though."

It hasn't been an easy season for Lee, a likeable personality who felt he was let

down by certain players demanding transfers while still under contract. He still feels a little hurt about former England player Colin Todd.

"Colin said he wanted to leave us because he didn't like playing right-back. I see he's been playing in that position for Birmingham, which suggests someone was kidding someone. I reckon he wanted to go for two reasons: money, and to be with his friends in Derby again."

Lee concludes: "Obviously I'm not happy with the situation. I believe that what I have done is right for the club. Whether it's right for Gordon Lee remains to be seen . . ."

EYEBROWS were raised when Blackpool coughed up £125,000 for Exeter striker Tony Kellow last season. But Tony, who had scored 46 goals for Exeter in the two and a quarter years he was there, has continued to make the sparks fly at Blackpool. But then what do you expect from a former electrician?

Kellow, who had joined Exeter from non-League Falmouth, notched 11 goals in his 25 appearances for Blackpool last season, and has been knocking 'em in again this season.

JIMMY Conway, former Fulham and Manchester City midfielder player, is hoping to join Oldham before he returns to Portland Timbers in the Spring.

Luck of the draw

PAT Partridge, the Durham-based referee, has taken charge of two World Club Championship Finals — thanks to the luck of the draw.

Partridge was in charge of the Bayern Munich/Cruzeiro game in Brazil in 1976, and last month officiated at the Malmö/Olimpia match in Sweden when the Paraguayans won 1-0.

On each occasion, the three match officials were handed envelopes with 'referee' or 'linesman' on them.

"One of my colleagues told me to choose first as I was the oldest. I picked the 'referee' envelope. A similar thing happened in Brazil three years ago," says Pat.

Even so, Partridge rightly feels this is the wrong way to decide who will be referee as (a) the winner is not properly geared up for the match and (b) losing could have an adverse effect on the linesmen.



WOLVES have shown an interest in Limerick United's centre-half Brendan Storan.

Big brother upstaged Muhren

IPSWICH ace Arnold Muhren might never have come to England but for his older brother Gerry.

Because it was Gerry, also a left-sided midfielder player, who kept Arnold on the sidelines at Ajax for a while and eventually forced him to move to FC Twente.

"I got fed up waiting," laughs Arnold. "Gerry was so good that I only got a game when he was injured. I needed to play more

often so I agreed to a transfer."

One consolation for Arnold, however, is that he won two European Cup winners' medals with the Amsterdam side as a member of their 16-strong squad at a time when players like Cruyff, Neeskens, Krol, Rep and Suurbler were household names.

He has hit it off in a big way at Ipswich where fans voted him the club's "Player of the Year" after just one season in the side.

Trevor Francis quits America

TREVOR Francis is not returning to the United States to play football at the end of the season.

The £1 million England striker has turned down an invitation to rejoin Detroit Express. He has recently moved into a house in Nottingham and is committed to Forest.

"I am not going back, except as a tourist," he states categorically. "I don't regret playing there, but I feel I have missed too much at Forest as a result of my involvement with American soccer."

It is clear that Brian Clough has helped influence Francis's decision not to play in the North American League. Francis injured a groin in America and spent some time out of action on his return — much to the Forest manager's annoyance.

His wife Helen has given birth to a baby boy, whom the Francis's have named Matthew John.

Paul Johnson?

THE Johnsons of Stoke City are still causing confusion. There's Paul and Paul and to differentiate between them the older one of the two is known as Paul A.

Paul A., a midfielder player, has been a professional with the club since June, 1973. He has been operating quite successfully in the League this season.

Yet in August he nearly went to Crewe and then turned down a loan transfer to Torquay.

The young Paul is a local discovery who signed professional in July, 1977, and plays at left back.

HEROES ALL

YESTERDAY'S Hero... and today's heroes. It was, of course, just a coincidence that George Best made a comeback with Hibernian at the same time as the film Yesterday's Hero, the story of a wayward soccer star, was released. Still, it was all good publicity for the movie and George, himself, has seen the film which wasn't supposed to be based on him, but...

Here are George and his wife, Angela, with Jackie Collins, who wrote the film, and Ian McShane, who plays the part of the hero. Jackie used to go along to see Arsenal with her dad when she was younger and still enjoys football a great deal.

Flan's not worried

MIKE Flanagan's goal drought is causing the Crystal Palace striker no loss of sleep. The £650,000 striker had scored only one goal in eight weeks leading up to the start of December, after a dazzling six goals in his first month at Selhurst Park.

Flanagan's lack of concern is explained thus: "The game is all about teamwork. I'm doing more than just scoring goals. I've added something else to my game because I'm helping create goals. I've been making chances and you can't be in two places at the same time."

"I haven't been on the end of the chances as much because I have been outside the box, helping create them. But I'm not worried as long as someone is scoring. That is how we have got where we are, not through individuals playing well. We are going well enough as a side and that's all that matters."

Flanagan doesn't try to disguise his lean spell. "I missed a few games through injury but would have liked a few more goals."

"I haven't had the best of luck. I had one disallowed against Manchester United. I am not worried. I'll still score goals — there is no doubt about that."

STEVE Murray, the popular Celtic star who was forced to give up the game because of foot trouble four years ago, has made a comeback with Dundee United following a period of scouting for the Tannadice club.

Murray played for the last 16 minutes in United's Scottish League Cup Semi-Final against Hamilton Academicals when he came on as a substitute.

FACTastic

MOST sensational ordering off of the season is that of Kilmarnock's Bobby Houston. He came on as a substitute in the 88th minute against Partick Thistle, and a minute later was sent off for an off-the-ball incident. Houston hadn't even touched the ball. Kilmarnock lost the game.

AYLOTT strikes it rich

TWENTY-two-year-old Trevor Aylott has had more than his fair share of triumph and despair. He desperately wanted to become a Chelsea star. Instead, they chose to sell him to Barnsley for £50,000 this season.

But then Trevor's luck changed. He scored the winning goal in Barnsley's F.A. Cup victory over Hartlepool — and has recently married Elizabeth Stead, aged 22, from Bermondsey, London.



What's it all about, Alfie?

THAT'S the question we are compelled to ask today of one of Scottish soccer's most controversial and unpredictable players... Alfie Conn.

He was freed by Celtic before the end of last season and after some mysterious events at Derby, there was talk of a fabulous deal with Spanish club Rayo Vallecano. It seemed that Alfie was ready to pick up something in the region of £50,000 for one season's work.

But there was a swift complication when the Hercules club of Alicante came in with an improved offer and Alfie decided to sign for them instead.

Since then things have gone quiet. There have been murmurs from Spain that the club has no money and that they already have their quota of foreign players.

One of the backroom men at the club admitted candidly that they hadn't even heard of a player by the name of Alfie Conn!

Now comes news that Conn is going to America to play in the Soccer Indoor League. Again we must ask: What is it all about, Alfie?

Controversy and Conn have walked hand in hand ever since the player came into big-time soccer with Rangers. He had skill, class and composure. He had breathtaking ball control and also confidence to match.

At the same time Conn was at Ibrox there was a young lad at

Parkhead toiling to break through. At the time, though, he couldn't be compared with Conn. That young Celt's name was Kenny Dalglish.

After helping Rangers to their European Cup-Winners' Cup triumph over Moscow Dynamo in Barcelona in 1972, Conn was much in demand with English clubs and Spurs won the race for his signature.

Bill Nicholson paid out £165,000 for him — at that time that was still a considerable fee — and Conn, was an immediate hit with the fans.

The honeymoon ended rather abruptly when Terry Neill took over from Nicholson as Spurs manager and it seemed obvious that Conn and the Irishman didn't exactly see eye to eye.

Neill moved across London to Arsenal and Keith Burkinshaw was promoted to the managerial chair, but it didn't bring a change in fortune for Conn. Then, suddenly and dramatically, Jock Stein swooped four seasons ago to pay out a cut price £60,000 for Alfie.

It was almost unheard of! A former Ranger signing for dreaded rivals Celtic.

In his first season Conn won a League and Cup medal. Ironically, he picked up his Scottish Cup winners' badge at the expense of Rangers in the Final. Celts won 1-0 with a penalty.

The following season Conn was in and out of the team with

niggling injuries. The season was a total disaster for Celtic as they won nothing.

Changes were called for and in a backroom shuffle Stein was offered a job on the board — which he declined to move to Leeds before returning as international manager — and Billy McNeill took charge.

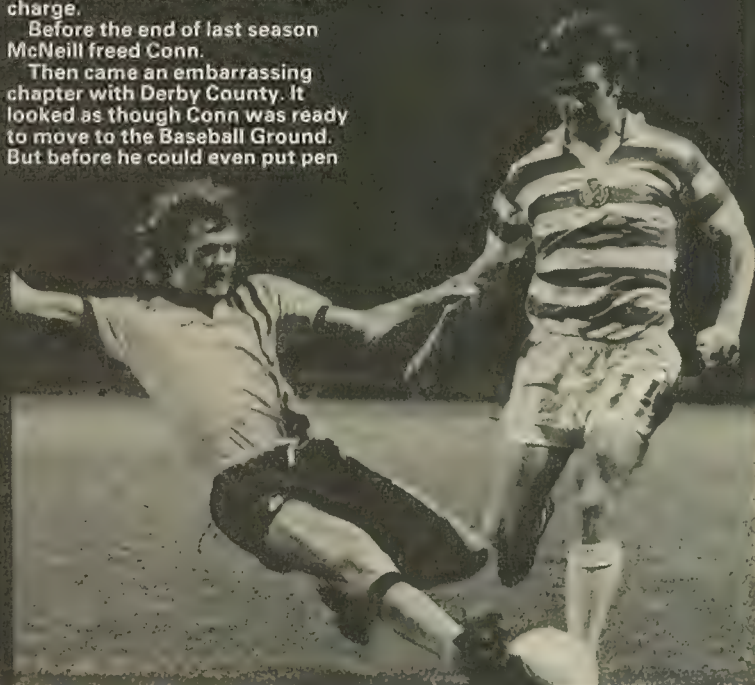
Before the end of last season McNeill freed Conn.

Then came an embarrassing chapter with Derby County. It looked as though Conn was ready to move to the Baseball Ground. But before he could even put pen

to paper The Doc quit Derby for Q.P.R.

There was talk of Conn going to Loftus Road, but that never materialised. The Spanish fiasco followed and the public are awaiting the next instalment.

Over to you, Alfie...



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Wembley

'I'd like a Christmas break'



Andy Gray
WRITES
FOR YOU

FOR the first time this season, I have no idea what I'll be doing on Saturday afternoon. The reason is simple: Wolves face Brighton at Molineux on Friday evening (December 21st) as the authorities believe Saturday attendances will be affected by last-minute Christmas shoppers.

They're probably correct and while we have no way of checking, I believe crowds will be better for the switch. One thing is for certain, though — you won't catch me out shopping Saturday afternoon!

Ideally, I'd like a couple of weeks break over the holiday period. It would be nice to enjoy the festivities like just about everyone else, which I haven't been able to do for the past seven years.

I don't believe players would lose anything in fitness by not playing for a fortnight, but, of course, a winter-break will never be introduced.

Clubs invariably have bumper crowds over the Christmas and New Year and they aren't going to give up this revenue, even if we are just about the only country that plays on during the holiday period.

I don't know exactly what I'll be doing Christmas Day. Most likely training in the morning and spending the afternoon quietly with relatives and friends. I still do exercises at home on my knee, so I can get into the festive spirit by putting some holly on the weight I have to lift!

Our programme is Brighton and Southampton at home; Ipswich and Spurs away. Eight points to be won and lost — I'll be happy with six and I daresay John Barnwell would be, too.

Brighton have staged something of a mini-revival lately and I was impressed with them when I saw them beat Nottingham Forest 1-0. The Seagulls' work-rate was tremendous and their players must have been almost dead when they trooped happily off the City

Ground.

Brighton had their share of luck against Forest, probably more than they'd had all season, as when you are struggling every break seems to go against you.

They still have a lot to do to retain their First Division status, as they lost many valuable points early on.

On Boxing Day, Southampton visit Molineux and there can't be a more Jekyll and Hyde side in Division One than Saints.

At home they have been scoring freely, while away nothing has gone right. They slipped from being Championship challengers to the fringe of the relegation zone in a matter of weeks . . . it's difficult to know what to make of them.

A Solution

If I knew the answer, Lawrie McMenemy would want me as his assistant! Should they be more defensive away from home? Do they place too much emphasis on entertainment? Should they be more professional on opponents' grounds? They must come up with a solution soon, as they can't continue to give away so many points when they leave The Dell.

Dave Watson, one of the best centre-halves in Europe, hasn't steadied the defence, but it would be wrong to blame him. He's had two or three different partners and needs time to build up an understanding.

On December 29th, we travel to Ipswich, who have lots of good players and it's been a surprise to see them so low in the table. We'll be looking to get a point at least at Portman Road.

On New Year's Day we go down to Tottenham to play one of the most improved teams in the Division. Full credit to manager Keith Burkinshaw for sticking to his beliefs when things were going badly.

Now, Spurs have a fine blend of

skilful players and those prepared to graft for 90 minutes. The defence is a lot stronger and they have had some excellent results after their early bad form.

I enjoy playing at White Hart Lane as there is always plenty of atmosphere. I can't remember being on the winning side there, although I think I've scored. Aston Villa won 4-1 last season . . . but I was injured. Maybe I'll start 1980 by breaking my duck!

Have a Happy Christmas, try and go to a game or two — and join me again in two weeks.



ANDY ANDY

The £1.5 million rally driver



ON the field, Wolves and Scot-
land striker Andy Gray is one of the
fastest players around. The 24-year-old
Scot has averaged a goal every other game
during his career. Our columnist recently swopped
sports for the afternoon when he met British rally driver
Russell Brookes and his aptly named "Andrews Heat For Hire"
Ford Escort. Andy would love to drive the car for real, but it's too
much of a risk for the £1.5 million star. Even so, he got the feel of
the car, which, also appropriately, was in Wolves colours. Here is
the SHOOT writer going some way to fulfilling his ambition... but
where there's a wheel, there's a way!



SHOOT!

IT works for Brian Clough and Peter Taylor at Nottingham Forest. It works for Terry Neill and Don Howe at Arsenal. It works for John Barnwell and Richie Barker at Wolves . . .

The establishment of two-man management teams is one of the most important and successful developments in British football in the past decade.

SHOOT studies the various formations of the two man team by talking to four men who hold the same positions in terms of authority . . . but whose roles are very different.

From international football and the First Division, there is Cyril Lea. He was assistant-manager and coach at Ipswich Town under Bobby Robson for a decade and has now teamed-up with Alan Durban at Stoke City: he is also, of course, number two under Mike Smith in the successful Wales set-up.

From promoted Watford, there is Bertie Mee — himself one of the great managerial figures in football from the Double era at Highbury when Arsenal won the League and F.A. Cup in 1970-71. Now he works with Watford's brilliant young manager Graham Taylor.

From Chelsea, a club battling to restore a healthy bank balance and its place in the First Division, there is Bobby Gould. He is working in

harness with manager Geoff Hurst, a close friend for several years, after a spell as player-coach at Hereford. Bobby's boss there was Mike Bailey, who is now Andy Nelson's right hand man at Charlton.

From Hartlepool and the Fourth Division we called on George Smith, a player with a wealth of experience.

If there was a number one rating for the number twos in football, it would surely go to Cyril Lea. He is one of the few who doubles up for club and country: for both Stoke City and for Wales, he has become a vital figure.

"The key to the job — whether I'm working with Alan Durban or Mike Smith — is to know when to come in and when to keep quiet. Obviously the floor belongs to the manager. That particularly applies when you are in the dressing-room before a game, at half-time or even after a match.

"Alan and Mike are both very rational men but, occasionally, you feel that they have missed something or that a view they have expressed needs expanding on at greater length.

"You make these judgments in the light of experience. While the manager has the floor, you take a back seat and assess what he is saying. Afterwards it is the turn of the number two — and that is the point when you come in.

"Often, too, the assistant-manager deals with individual players during

the dressing-room sessions. A player may need 'geeing' up, calmed down or have his tactical role adjusted. Again this will often be the task of the number two while the manager's remarks are on a more general level."

Both Alan Durban and Mike Smith highly value the expertise and thoughtful professionalism of the straight-talking former Wales wing-half. In all decisions, he has a share.

"Before Mike names a Wales squad, he will ring me to discuss his ideas; in the same way, we always converse before a final decision is taken on team selection. He has confidence in me and I like to think that I have something of value to offer.

"He involves me with the tactical planning as well and in all the pre-match training. For instance, I will work out with the defenders and he with the attacking players — or the other way around. The set-pieces and

"But the manager often has to accept that he is training a number two to become a manager in his own right. Don Howe, Steve Burtenshaw, Bobby Campbell, Dave Smith and Dave Sexton were all right hand men to me at Highbury.

"Yet again, there are some men who are outstanding number twos — but who would find themselves slightly out of their depth if they got into the hot seat themselves.

"There are some outstanding assistant-managers and coaches in football today who will ultimately do better jobs for themselves and their clubs if they stay at that level.

"I spent six years at Highbury under George Swindin and Billy Wright. I thought that I knew all the answers when I stepped up into the top job — but found that the job itself bore no relation to what I had expected."

After his mighty achievements finally as manager of one of the great

Soccer at the top needs... A TWO~



Geoff Hurst and Bobby Gould (far right), partners striving to regain First Division status for Chelsea.

dead ball situations are usually my responsibility."

It is very much the same at Stoke. Lea has little contact with the reserve or youth sides apart from watching progress. His place is alongside Alan Durban — as it was with Bobby Robson — concentrating on the first team.

"Alan is very much a tracksuit manager so both of us are involved day after day in the training. On those occasions when office work is a must or he has to travel, I will handle the first team squad on my own.

"In many ways, both with club and country, I am slightly closer to the players in personal terms. They are more likely to have a laugh and a joke with me than the managers. That, again, is how it should be . . . because the final decision which affects them directly must always be with the manager.

'Positive'

"However, there are inevitably occasions when we disagree. It is important then to be positive and state your beliefs. There is no point in being just a 'yes man'.

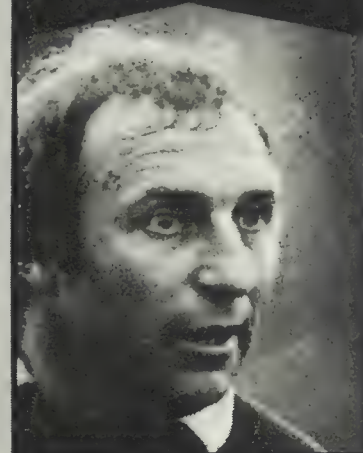
"There is no doubt in my mind that football management has to be a partnership these days."

One man who is better qualified than most to comment on that statement is Bertie Mee, who confirms: "The demands of football and of the club itself means that each man's opinions and outlook come together to form a complementary partnership which is appropriate to the situation.

"Having stressed that point, however, let me add that it is useless to have a number two who is seeking to stab the manager in the back and climb over his body into the job.



Andy Nelson (above) and Mike Bailey (below), a new duo looking to transform the fortunes of Charlton.



club sides of all time, surely it could now be argued that Mee has taken a step backwards by going as number two at a club beyond the First Division.

"Football management, as in life itself, is a series of peaks. After scaling the heights, there comes a time when you can step down and yet still make a maximum contribution. That is how it has been for me at Watford.

'Responsible'

"I have a wealth of experience: it is there to be used. By the directors, by the administration, by Graham Taylor. At Watford, I am responsible for all scouting and recruitment; then, when appropriate, to help Graham in tactical matters and general observations regarding team affairs.

"I have no ambitions to be a number one again and I know that my job with Watford is exactly the one I should be doing at my time of life and with my background in football. I enjoy it immensely.

"The other point, of course, is that I am concerned with the development of a community stadium and this gives my job a much broader base than

pure League club management."

Bobby Gould, Chelsea's new number two, admits that he did not find the transformation from player to coach — and taking a share of decisions with first Mike Bailey at Hereford and now Geoff Hurst — to be an easy switch. "I spent my first season as coach learning. Now I must profit from my mistakes.

"At Hereford, I had to score goals for the first team and assist Mike off the field. I was trying to do too much.

"As Geoff Hurst's assistant-manager I'm not required to play. I can devote all my time to sharing the responsibilities of running the club, and achieving promotion back to the First Division."

Away from the rich clubs, a different style of 'number two' operates: a man who, at the same time, is often assistant-manager, coach and player as well. At Hartlepool, George Smith covers all these responsibilities.

"How do I find the time for all these jobs? It simply comes from a love of the game.

"That is why it is never a chore. The moment you feel that way about the job is the time to quit . . . and I live for every second of football

activity!

"I feel that I have the qualifications to tackle such a range of jobs. The greatest pleasure of all is in giving young players help towards making a success of their careers and as much money as they can from that success."

Smith has seen football from every angle. His big money moves have covered seven previous clubs from the First Division to the Fourth: first Barrow then Portsmouth, Middlesbrough, Birmingham, Cardiff and Swansea. It was only because an opening came for George to move into coaching with Hartlepool that Swansea reluctantly released their skipper to return to his native North-East.

'Qualities'

"What I try to put in is what I've taken out: enjoyment, success and ambition. If the young players see these qualities in you — and that you can still play the game to high standards — the respect comes."

Smith works closely with manager Billy Horner and fellow coach Willie Maddren. "If, for instance, we are thinking about signing a new player, I will go and have a look at him first.

Then Billy will follow up and, if it is possible to bring the player to Hartlepool, we take it from there.

"As a coach, I take charge of all the training sessions in partnership with Willie. This is a tremendous challenge and the rewards come when you see young players improving and progressing at first team level.

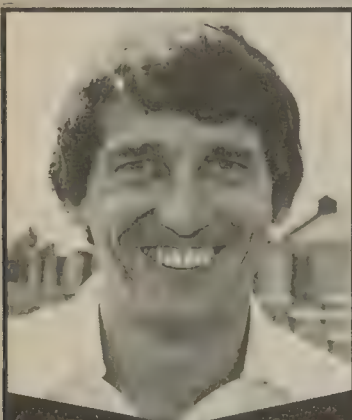
"As a player, I'm simply George Smith. I might bully and encourage but the first responsibility then is to my own performance within the team. Whether I was manager, coach or skipper, it would make no difference — playing the game to the best of my ability is what counts."

Clearly, then, League managers are becoming more and more aware of the importance of shared responsibilities and the rewards they are bringing.

What better example of the man in charge utilising the experience and promise of his assistants than in the England set-up, where Ron Greenwood is running his own version of the gang show.

Geoff Hurst, Terry Venables, Bobby Robson, Dave Sexton, John Cartwright and Done Howe all give their assistance, so it is hardly surprising that England are doing so well.

MAN TEAM



Graham Taylor (above) benefits from the vast experience of former Arsenal boss Bertie Mee (below) at Watford.



Cyril Lea (below) has given great service to Wales and Ipswich. Now he is helping manager Alan Durban (above) at Stoke.



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THERE'S an old saying in football, that you don't have to be mad to be a goalkeeper — but it helps.

And right now, London soccer boasts two 'keepers who, while they're certainly NOT mad, are different, with a capital 'D'.

John Burridge of Crystal Palace and Petar Borota of Chelsea are two larger-than-life characters who are putting some much needed enjoyment back into the

TWO LONDON STARS WHO ARE MORE THAN JUST GOALKEEPERS

BURRIDGE and BOROTA are number one entertainers

game.

Early arrivals at Palace matches can expect to find Burridge out on the pitch 30 minutes before the kick-off, going through a repertoire of cartwheels, handstands and tumbles that would grace any circus ring or stage.

But John is quick to point out, it's not really a show that he's putting on to supplement the football.

"Those exercises are very important to my warm-up routine," he said. "I've had this natural agility since I was young, and I use it now to help me to be tuned-up and raring to go from the very first whistle.

"Sure I know people are likely to have a quiet chuckle at me. But I don't really mind. Who knows, in my own way I might be doing my bit to combat soccer violence on the terraces. Because if the yobs are laughing at me, they can't be fighting with each other, can they?"

Barry Silkman, a former teammate of Burridge's, still remembers the night the Palace team spent at an hotel, and John went to Silkman's room after midnight to show off some new Sepp Maier goalkeeping gloves he had.

And it wasn't long before John had the still half-asleep Silkman tossing a ball across the room to him, just to see how effective the gloves really were.

Off the field, Burridge is a self-confessed fancy-dress fan, with Hitler, Stalin and Sgt. Bilko among his favourite subjects.

"I've got a wardrobe full of fancy-dress outfits for parties, and I really enjoy getting into the spirit of things," he says.

John's team-mates call him 'Budgie', and it isn't hard to understand why, because he just loves to talk.

The words seem to come at you at 100mph, too, on almost any subject. But somehow, he always manages to get back to his great love — football.

"Signing John was one of the best deals I've ever done," says Palace manager Terry Venables. "I honestly believe that it won't be long before he's challenging Shilton and Clemence for the England jersey.

"I've rarely met a player with such a capacity for hard work. I bought him for just £40,000. But now I wouldn't sell him for £250,000."

Peter Bonetti was the boyhood



Petar Borota keeps them happy with his antics in the Chelsea goal.



John Burridge, goalkeeper and acrobat.

hero of John Burridge, and it just so happens that the man to take over from Bonetti is, like Burridge, another out-of-the-ordinary individual, Petar Borota.

Like John, Borota's sometimes unorthodox antics have really got the fans talking.

His tendency to swing round his goalposts, for instance.

"That makes some people call me a monkey — or say I should be in a circus," says Petar, with a grin.

Then there's the enormous gloves, as big as tennis rackets, and shorts like tights that come down to his knees.

"I got the idea for them from Sepp Maier," he points out. "I love to see him in them.

"I do these things for the genuine soccer fans, who like to see some showbiz with their football.

"But I want everyone to know that I am deadly serious about my work."

A view supported by team-mate, Ron Harris, who says: "Petar comes in for a fair bit of whistling and jeering at some grounds. But it doesn't affect him.

"He works hard on the important things, and now has a far better understanding with his defence than when he first arrived."

Petar once took to the field with a head of newly-permed curls, to the total amazement of his father, a retired Major-General.

Dad went through the roof.

"So the next game I appeared with all the curls cut off, and my hair very short," laughed Borota. "The crowd loved it."

THE YOUNG

SHOOT looks at the up-and-coming stars of Glasgow's "Big Two"

WHEN Rangers were beaten 2-1 by St. Mirren recently, Ibrox manager John Greig was disappointed, but hardly utterly dejected.

Rangers had finished the game with three teenagers in the side — Gordon Dalziel, John MacDonald and Billy Mackay. The result might not have been right, but Greig, under pressure to splash out in the transfer market, was satisfied with his talented babes.

It was Rangers' second successive defeat, following hot on the trail of the European Cup-Winners' Cup flop against Valencia. Looking to the future Greig says forcibly: "Only players who give me, their mates and the team 100 per cent effort for the entire 90 minutes will be considered for places in the team."

"Our supporters have been magnificent this season and they deserve the very best. We plan to give them that."

Greig dropped international winger Davie Cooper, Gordon Smith and Billy Urquhart from the team that lost 3-1 at home to Mario Kempes-inspired Valencia.

They played in the reserves alongside former international Derek Parlane on the day the first team lost to St. Mirren at Love Street. Greig, though, couldn't have been pleased when he heard that his reserves had been hammered 5-0 by the Saints' second string.

"It's been a disappointing time, but we will have to work at our game and get things sorted out," says Greig. "There will be no panic buying."

Greig, like his great rival and counterpart Billy McNeill across Glasgow at Celtic, sees the future of his club resting with home grown talent rather than massive buys on the transfer front, although it is a fact that he has quite a lot of money at his disposal if he wished to take the plunge.

John MacDonald, for instance, will surely emerge as one of Scotland's most exciting and entertaining wingers.

The Rangers boss refuses to rush the player, but obviously he knows the lad's full potential and sees him as a key man in his future plans.

MacDonald made a thrilling start to the season in a Drybrough Cup tie against Kilmarnock while Rangers were struggling towards a goalless draw. MacDonald came on as substitute and scored two superb goals.

He played against Celtic in the Final at Hampden — and scored a memorable solo goal in his side's 3-1 triumph. He also played

against the Parkhead side in the Premier Division match at Ibrox and, almost needless to say, he again got his name on the scoresheet with a brilliant diving header in a 2-2 draw.

Billy Mackay, too, is an exceptionally gifted youngster. He prefers to play on the right and enjoys nothing more than going direct to goal and letting loose with thunderbolt drives.

He played against Clyde earlier

in the season as Rangers romped to a 4-1 victory and he netted two wonderful efforts. Again Greig was impressed, but he refused to push him.

And what about Gordon Dalziel, a new name this season for Rangers fans to enthuse over? He showed nice touches in the match against St. Mirren although he might have expected more support.

But, like MacDonald and



Gordon Dalziel (above) and Billy Mackay (left) are just two of the young men Rangers' fans are hoping will boost their team.

OLD FIRM

Mackay, he is one for the future. A player with the silky touch of immense class. He might be a rough diamond at the moment, but if anyone can get him honed to perfection it is John Greig.

"Naturally I want Rangers to be a winning team," says Greig. "I want us to win and win well. I never forget to stress that to my players. I believe in entertainment with the rewards that come with it."

"Goals are what the fans want to see and if they enjoy it as well then they will come along in due course. If we provide the goods then they will return to soccer."

Greig refuses to make excuses for some of Rangers' disappointments this season, but against Valencia, for instance, Greig had to go into the game without sparking midfielder Bobby Russell and international defensive duo Colin Jackson and Tom Forsyth. They were all injured.

Gregor Stevens, too, had to be overlooked because he hadn't been signed from Leicester City in time to be registered for the Second Round of the tournament.

Greig could have pointed to

that little catalogue of disasters, but he didn't. He didn't hide when the pressure was on — and that is exactly what he demands from his players.

Rangers will probably buy this season to bolster the playing strength, but Greig can still look at the likes of Russell, MacDonald, Mackay, Dalziel and Ally Dawson and know that young players are emerging.

Derek Johnstone, too, can hardly be rated in the veteran class although he seems to have been around Ibrox for quite a while! He celebrated his 26th birthday on the 11th November, so, obviously, there is still a great future awaiting him.

Davie Cooper is another who has a huge part to play. Consistency is hardly his strong point and he will have to improve upon his work-rate. Greig will no doubt work on that, for Cooper has the ability to go all the way to the top.

Rangers, then, might not be enjoying the best of fortunes since the start of the season, but they still have a lot to offer. It would be a foolish man who writes them off... especially with a no-nonsense manager such as John Greig around to point them in the right direction.

Not to be outdone, Celtic, too, have their fair share of supremely gifted youngsters coming along on their conveyor belt of talent.

Charlie Nicholas, signed at the start of the season, is a teenager who looks capable of scoring goals in anyone's company. He is a penalty box player with the speed and cunning to turn the best defenders.

His time will come in the near future. John Halpin is a left winger who signed at the same time as Nicholas and the twinkle-toed kid earned rave notices when he played for the Scottish Youth team in an international tournament in Las Palmas this season.

Halpin was breathtaking as he tortured and tormented defences with pure skill and class. It was little wonder that the Scots won the trophy.

Nicholas and Halpin are just two of the babes for the future, but Billy McNeill makes the point that the current team is basically a young one with everything in front of them.

Roy Aitken, Alan Sneddon, Tommy Burns, Davie Provan, Murdo MacLeod, George McCluskey and Mike Conroy are all in their early 20's.

So, the Old Firm's Young Firm plan to make certain that the Scottish giants still rule soccer North of the border for years to come.

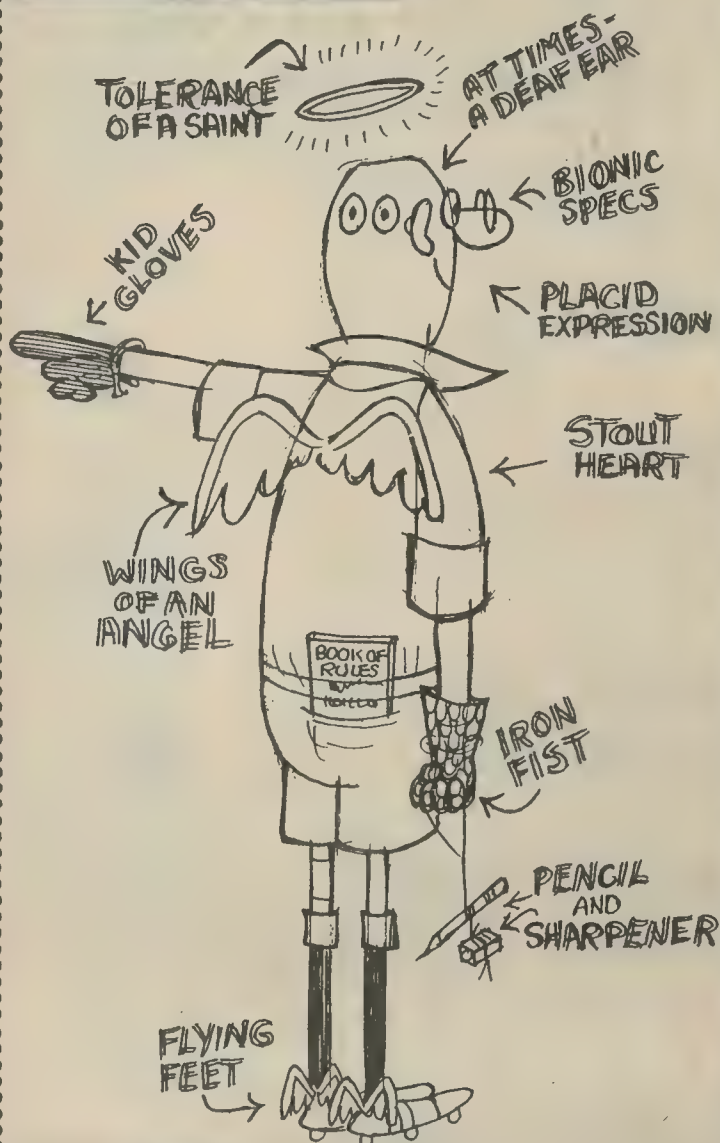
Lucky Celtic and Rangers fans!

Tommy Burns (left) and Davie Provan (right), already established in the Celtic side but with plenty more to offer at Parkhead.



The Perfect Ref

THE most hated man on the pitch, that's often the case for the poor old referee. He is the man who can never win, so SHOOT's resident cartoonist Styx has come up with a few ideas which might help the men in black. Pat Partridge, Clive Thomas, and Co. have all made a valiant effort at winning friends and influencing people all over the world, but we reckon that this newcomer to the refereeing scene beats the lot!



Clive's view

IF I were this referee, I'd be able to see incidents happening behind my back. This, of course, would mean there would be no need for linesmen . . . think of the financial saving there!

Assessors, who watch and mark referees, would go, too, while I'm sure I'd be given all the top games. Even Jimmy Hill and Brian Moore couldn't criticise me . . . as I'd be perfect!

Above all, I'd be a cert to referee the European Cup and World Cup Finals and continue refereeing until I was 80 — as I assume I'd have a built-in bionic heart!



YOU ARE THE REF

Compiled by CLIVE THOMAS

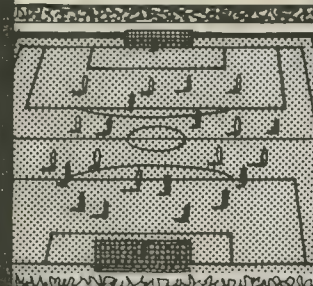
1

A player is being cautioned for dissent, but he then kicks the ball away. Should you: (a) issue a second caution, (b) dismiss the player or (c) award a direct free-kick?



2

After ten minutes play you realise that one team has 12 players (the score is 0-0). Should you: (a) abandon the match and start another, (b) ask the captain to decide which player goes off or (c) abandon the match altogether?



4

A player shouts "open your eyes ref" when he did not agree with a decision. After cautioning the player should you restart with: (a) a direct free-kick, (b) an indirect free-kick, or (c) a drop ball?

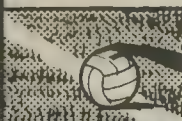
3

An attacker charges the goalkeeper who is holding the ball inside his own goal-area. Should you: (a) penalise the attacker, or (b) take no action?



5

The goalkeeper falls behind the goal-line but manages to hold the ball on the line. Should you award a goal?



ANSWERS

1. Dismiss the player (b). I unfortunately had to do something similar to this in the European Cup Semi-Final between Bayern Munich and Real Madrid. The Real winger had just been cautioned when, in temper, he deliberately kicked the ball away, when it should have been a throw-in for his opponents. I had no option but to dismiss him from the field. 2. Abandon the match and start another (a). 3. Take no action (b). I am all in favour of the goalkeeper being fairly charged. I am beginning to feel that keepers are dominating the game. 4. An indirect free-kick (b). 5.

ASK Ron Atkinson to name the greatest player he has ever seen and he doesn't need to think twice to provide the answer.

"Pele," raps the West Bromwich Albion boss. "He's the greatest there has ever been — or is ever likely to be.

"The man's a one-off. An out-and-out genius and I'm sure we'll never see anyone like him again.

"I can name several players whose skill and ability have left me drooling with envy — Matthews, Best, Cruyff, di Stefano and Beckenbauer among them.

"All were great players. But none had the all-round ability of Pele. For me he's the man who had everything... the perfect player.

"He was big, strong, had pace, incredible jumping power. In fact he had every asset you can think of — including imagination.

"He proved how much of that he had when he tried to score from the halfway line playing for Brazil in the 1970 World Cup Finals.

"Who else would have had the nerve to try a thing like that? He

boycotting the current transfer market in an attempt to bring down the spiralling fees, but if you want the very best you have got to pay for it.

"I stress that I have gone for strikers because people who can do the most difficult job in the game — stick the ball in the back of the net — are like gold dust.

"But there are fine players in other areas of the field that any manager would have in his side. And top of my list of non-strikers would be Liam Brady, of Arsenal.

"He is without doubt the best midfield player in Britain. It's a pity he has decided to join the talent drain to the Continent when his contract runs out at the end of the season."

Atkinson is clearly a man who knows what he wants. He rattled his selections off without hesitation when asked for them.

That's the sort of positive approach that will keep him among the forefront of British bosses, and the teams he manages among the best in the business.

'PELE IS THE GREATEST'

**says
Ron
Atkinson**

deserved a goal for his cheek and he so nearly got one.

"He's the undisputed king as far as I'm concerned. The Muhammad Ali of football.

"There was a lad in this country back in the 1950's who looked as though he might become a world star.

"His name was Duncan Edwards. He played for England and Manchester United but his potential was never to be fulfilled because he was tragically killed in the air crash that wiped out many Manchester United players, at Munich in February, 1958."

Atkinson does not hesitate in naming the British players he would go for if he had unlimited money for a splash in the transfer market. "Kenny Dalglish or Trevor Francis," he beams.

Says big Ron: "They score goals — and people like that are the most valuable in the game.

"Dalglish and Francis are quick, bright, hard to pin down and lethal finishers.

"They would cost an absolute fortune if they were made available for transfer — although there is not the slightest chance of that happening.

"But whatever money was asked for them it would be worth it, because you can always rely on them to score goals.

"There is a lot of talk about





West Brom goalkeeper Tony Godden about to collect the ball, helped by Derek Statham (right) and Tony 'Bomber' Brown, during a derby game against Aston Villa.

SHOOT!

FOCUS ON John Bailey EVERTON

FULL NAME: John Anthony Bailey
BIRTHPLACE: Liverpool
BIRTHDATE: 1st April, 1957
HEIGHT: 5ft 8ins
WEIGHT: 11st 1lb
PREVIOUS CLUB: Blackburn Rovers
MARRIED: No
CAR: Capri 2000 GL
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Wolves' Emlyn Hughes
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Blackburn Rovers
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Charlton's Colin Powell
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Liverpool against Blackburn in the F.A. Cup
BIGGEST THRILL: Signing for Everton
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Relegation with Blackburn
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: Germany
FAVOURITE FOOD: Steak and chips
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Driving and playing snooker
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Crowd violence
FAVOURITE T.V. SHOWS: Top of the Pops and all sports programmes
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Elton John and Leo Sayer
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Clint Eastwood and Joan Collins
BEST FRIEND: I've many
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Jim Smith (Birmingham), John Pickering and Richard Dinnis
BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Losing and injuries
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: None
PERSONAL AMBITION: To be successful and happy
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To play for England
IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE? I don't know
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? Muhammad Ali

John Bailey



SHOOT!

'RIX IS BETTER THAN BRADY'

IT now looks almost certain that when Liam Brady's present contract ends he will be packing his boots and waving goodbye to seek out fame and fortune overseas.

As you'd expect, when the news first leaked out, the Arsenal faithfuls could clearly be heard sobbing in their pillows.

But in recent months the tears have dried, because suddenly the future without Brady doesn't seem so bleak after all.

The reason for the renewed optimism has come in the shape of a lad with a candy floss hair style, Graham Rix.

Doncaster born Rix has been in tremendous form this season, some say putting him on a plain with the town's most famous footballing son, Kevin Keegan.

Many an observer has been moved to declare that Graham's own left foot is now as polished a jewel as that of his great mate, Brady.

And Alan Mullery, whose Brighton side have suffered at the hands of The Gunners on no less than four occasions this season, in League and League Cup, even went as far as to say: "From what I've seen, young Rix looks a better player than Brady."

"Confidence and consistency are the two big factors," says Graham. "Previously I tended to allow my head to drop when things weren't going the way I wanted. Now that doesn't happen. Instead, I grit my teeth and get stuck in."

"But I'm still working on the third 'C' ... concentration, because I'm still liable to do something outrageously silly, and completely out of the blue."

Typically, Rix is quick to point to the part that Brady has played in his emergence.

"People have said in the past that we were too similar in style to perform effectively in the same team," says Graham. "I disagree."

"I've never been inhibited by him. The opposite, in fact, because I've learnt an awful lot by playing alongside him."

"And now, because he's being watched more closely than ever by defenders, I feel as if I've got a far greater responsibility to shoulder."

"That's something I enjoy. It means I'm dropping back into mid-field more, seeing more of the ball, and consequently getting the



Brighton manager Alan Mullery.

opportunity to do things with it." One of Graham's greatest admirers is Don Howe, the Arsenal coach, who says: "In my opinion Graham is now the number one player in his position in the country."

"He and Brady are both world class — and if they were Brazilians, the fans would go mad about them."

Graham joined Arsenal in 1974, straight from school, after turning down offers from Manchester United and Leeds.

Alan Ball, during his time with Arsenal, boldly proclaimed Rix as "the most talented young player I have ever seen ... he's got so much talent, it's frightening."

A serious back injury though, two cracked vertebrae in his spine, looked to be threatening the youngster's progress at one time. And Graham found himself having to spend three months in a plaster cast.

Thankfully, the back hasn't given him any serious trouble since, and now Rix is pressing home his claim to a place in the full England squad, following his outstanding performances for the Under-21 and 'B' sides.

Don Howe is adamant in his view. "I firmly believe Graham is ready to play for the senior side right now. Yes, he's that good."

ERIC GOES

THE morning training session is over. Eric Steele, Watford's £100,000 goalkeeper sits back in a comfortable chair and enjoys a refreshing cup of tea. But you won't find him idle for long!

He's too busy settling in at his new club, getting his own career back into top gear, and planning how best to continue the schoolboy coaching he built up so successfully in Brighton.

But there is time to look back on the move that took him back into the Second Division, in October.

"I didn't want to leave Brighton," he says. "That's the first and most important point. It wasn't my decision, it was Alan Mullery's. I think he was wrong and I'll be proved right in time. Once he'd made up his mind, I had to resolve myself to leaving."

"But it hurt. It took me a long time to get to the First Division and I think that in the ten games I played, I proved I was good enough to keep my place at that level. But once I knew I was on the move, I wanted to get away as quickly as I could."

"I went on the list on a Thursday and Watford came straight in for me the next day. I'd signed for them within a week. I was very happy to join such a progressive club. I would never have come here if I didn't believe we would be a First Division side in a couple of years."

"Since I arrived at Vicarage Road, I've been impressed with the whole set-up. I like the way people look at the game. I'm sure I've made the right move. Some people may wonder why I went to a Second Division club. My answer is, I've taken one step back to take



two forward. I'll return to Division One, with Watford."

At Brighton, Eric filled much of his free time by coaching schoolboys and helping handicapped people. He intends to carry on the good work in Watford as well as keeping an interest on the South Coast.

"I've been interested in coaching ever since I left school," he explains. "I was going to train as a teacher, but then I got the chance to join Newcastle United and I took it. But I never lost my interest in coaching."

"The main idea I want to get across to the lads is that they should enjoy their football. Professional players have to live



BACK TO SCHOOL

Eric (left) still keeps an active interest in local football in the Brighton area. The Watford 'keeper (right) shows how to safely gather the ball.

with pressure, but while you're at school it's fun. If any of the kids think they're good enough to earn their living from the game, they should work hard on their skills. But they should try to get some qualifications behind them first.

"If they're good enough to make the grade at 16, they'll still be at 18. Football is a very insecure business. You've got to have something to fall back on."

Eric has seen the cruellest face of football. Young apprentices of 17 or 18 who have failed to live up to their early potential. They're on the list, with nowhere to go. They feel washed up, before their young lives have really begun.

"That's why I tell the lads to work hard at their school work, as well as their football."

Eric did just that, when he was a lad, up on Tyneside. He left school with three 'A' levels, but still found plenty of time to play football.

"I played three games, every weekend," he smiles. "I'd finish my school match on Saturday morning, then dash off to play for Wallsend Boys Club. A lot of good players, like Ray Hankin and Alan Waddle, came from there. On Sunday mornings I had another match and every Sunday afternoon . . . I died!"

Eric's enthusiasm for the game always comes across when he's coaching schoolboys. But would he like to see more stars taking the



time to give something back to the game, at grass roots level?

"A lot of people say players are too selfish to give up their free time, but I don't think that's really the reason so few do it. SHOOT readers might be surprised to hear me say this, but a lot of professional players lack self-confidence. The thought of standing up and talking to a crowd of youngsters brings them out in a cold sweat.

"Every player has his own personality. Some are good at talking to people, some aren't. But

the ones who are shy often enjoy coaching, once they've got over the first ten or 20 minutes. I noticed that when Brighton had a sponsored scheme last year. Every week, two players would go out to a local school and talk about the game.

"Some of the players weren't too keen, but they all relaxed and enjoyed themselves in the end. Now, at Watford, people at the club seem to think along the same lines as me. Players are encouraged to work and get involved with the local community. I think that's the way it should be."

Watford's soccer stars of the future will be getting plenty of sound advice from Eric in the months to come. Talented youngsters need expert help. And who better to give that help than the local soccer stars?

"Professionals do have a fair amount of free time on their hands. I think it should be used to put something back into the game. Coaching can be hard work, but when you see your ideas getting across to young players, it's very satisfying too."

If more thought like Eric Steele, the future would look brighter for British soccer. And after the controversy and disappointments of recent months, Eric's own future looks rosey again, with Watford.

"This club's only going one way," he says, finally, "and that's up."



Steele (above) puts the youngsters through their paces.

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'BRITAIN'S CRAZY TRANSFER SYSTEM'

THAT was the year that was, and a good one for Celtic and Danny McGrain if you don't mind me saying so.

It was the year Celtic got back into the trophy business again, the year we regained our rightful position as Champions of Scotland, even if we came out of the blue — or rather green — to do it.

And it was the year that I finally convinced everyone and, most important, myself that my old injury, which cost me a year of my career, had finally and permanently cleared up.

So what were the highlights of 1979? Well, if I had to put it down to one period of 90 minutes, how about that Spring night when we clinched the Championship?

Remember how we lost Johnny Doyle, sent-off when Rangers were 1-0 ahead? That looked the end of the road for us right there in our own back yard at Parkhead.

Glorious

But we battled back like few Celtic teams have before, and you have no idea how it felt to be captain of the club when Murdo MacLeod shot home that glorious goal in the last minute to give us a 4-2 win ... and the Scottish League flag.

And that brings me nicely to the goal of the season as far as I am concerned — that same Murdo MacLeod effort. Okay, it tied up the title for us but it wasn't such a bad goal in its own right anyway.

I will never forget the way it flew home and tucked so neatly in behind Peter McCloy. Joy of joys!

But if you force me to put my finger on another goal I will go for George McCluskey's magical free-kick against Dundee United this season when he bent the ball round the defensive wall in great style.

I also liked Archie Gemmill's goal for Scotland against Austria at Hampden in the 1-1 draw which — at the time — kept our European Championship hopes alive. Sadly it turned out to be little more than a stay of execution.

Another young player with a golden goal touch I must admire is England's latest idol Glenn Hoddle. He stuck away two superb efforts

for Spurs against Manchester United and Forest and one on his England debut against Bulgaria. All three were 'Goal of the Season' material.

If you want to talk about the save of the season you need look back no further than the first Saturday in December when St. Mirren's Billy Thomson pulled off a magnificent acrobatic effort from Dom Sullivan when playing against us at Love Street.

Anything bad in 1979? Every part of life has shadows to go with the sunshine. And there is a little of the curious too.

Nothing in football could be stranger than the European Cup First Round draw which took us to Albania and entered us into a visa War which stopped the Press and our fans travelling to see our game against Partizani Tirana.

But after the most amazing wrangle, which had Scottish sportswriters travelling to Paris to camp out on the steps of the Albanian Embassy, and after calls to ban these Iron Curtain people from the competition altogether we travelled to Albania to find the most incredible hospitality and interest in our team.

Another factor which fascinated me about 1979 was the transfer market going berserk and people in the game losing all idea about the value of money.

If any player is worth £1 million surely it must be Tony Woodcock, and yet thanks to Britain's crazy transfer laws he was allowed to go abroad for £650,000. Surely there would have been at least a dozen clubs in the U.K. who would have paid that money to keep Tony here.

If football has to make a New Year resolution for the 80's it must be to put a ceiling on transfer fees in this country and to take the lid off them on any player going abroad.

Danny McGrain



St. Mirren 'keeper Billy Thomson made the save of the season against Celtic.

FOOTBALL FAMILY MABBUTT...

EVERY dad dreams about his son doing well in life — perhaps following in his own footsteps — and in football at the moment there are a lot of awfully proud fathers.

It's always tough for a boy to win over the fans if they start comparing him with his father, particularly if dad happened to be a local hero.

Such is the case in Bristol where Ray Mabbutt was a great favourite during his playing days as a half-back with Rovers.

Now Ray takes a great interest in the progress of BOTH his sons — Kevin, who made a fine start to his career as a striker with City, and Gary, the younger brother who is beginning to make an impact with Rovers.

The father and son who perhaps have the closest affinity are John and Kevin Bond. As dad is manager of Norwich City and son the club's first-choice right-back, there is little talk of anything but football in the Bond household.

Down on the South Coast one of John Bond's best friends in football, the amiable Lawrie McMenemy, is plotting the footballing future of his son Chris.

Although still in the junior ranks Chris shows a lot of promise and could go one better than his father, who is one of the few managers around who never played League football.

One of the most publicised players of the 60's and early 70's was Tony Hateley, that rolling stone of a centre-forward who collected clubs like a philatelist picks up stamps.

Now Tony's son Mark is on the first steps of the professional ladder with Coventry City and early indications are that he can make just as big a name for himself.

Charlie Atkinson was never a big name in football, but he was one of those never to be underestimated, players who always strove honestly for the good of his club — in his case Hull City and then Bradford Park Avenue, for whom he made a record number of appearances.

The new Atkinson in the game is Charlie's son Paul, and so well has he started with Oldham Athletic that he has already won a place in the England youth squad. Paul



Ray Mabbutt's Bristol loyalties are divided between Gary (right) at Rovers, and Kevin (far right) at City.



scored on his League debut for Oldham on the first day of this season and has kept his place at Boundary Park.

Not so far away in the rather more palatial setting of Goodison Park another chip off the old block is reviving memories of a bone-crunching centre-half who didn't give an inch to anyone.

That was Bolton Wanderers centre-half John Higgins. The copy of the prototype is Everton's Mark Higgins who made his League bow a couple of seasons ago and has since figured regularly for The Toffees.

Co-defender Billy Wright, incidentally, is a nephew of another old Everton favourite, England full-back Tommy Wright.

Talking of centre-halves one who may yet play for England, which is something his father never achieved, is Leeds United's highly-rated Paul Hart.

Paul can remember going along



Les Allen and son Clive (left), strikers of the past and present.



Johnny Hart and son Paul (right) who is now at Leeds.



to Maine Road to watch his dad Johnny play inside-forward for Manchester City. He decided life would be tough following him at the same club, and so his path to Leeds has been via Stockport and Blackpool.

A defender who made a different choice though was Port Vale's Phil Sproson, but then so synonymous was the name Sproson with the Potteries club that it would have seemed wrong for Phil to go anywhere else.

Father Roy was player, coach and manager of Vale for over 20 years, played in a record number of 761 League matches and was known as Mr Port Vale. Now his

impact since breaking into West Ham's midfield this season.

Clive really made the headlines when he rattled in a hat-trick on his first full appearance for Queens Park Rangers last season. Then after several impressive displays for England's youth side he got 1979-80 off to a bang with a string of goals to spearhead Rangers immediate drive for a return to the First Division.

Paul has settled in at Upton Park extremely quickly and even Hammers manager John Lyall was pleasantly surprised by the ease with which his young prodigy worked in alongside players of the calibre of Trevor Brooking and



Two of the famous five. Wayne Clarke is a striker at Wolves, while brother Allan (above left) is boss at Barnsley.

and more chips off the old blocks

son has an awful lot to live up to, but he's happy enough to try.

Perhaps the most talked about player in this respect, however, is Swansea City's Jeremy Charles.

Such was the immense achievement and popularity of the Charles brothers John and Mel in Wales, that any son following suit is automatically expected to be a super-star.

So when Jeremy made such a dazzling start to his career at the Vetch Field scoring a stack of goals in his first season great things were expected.

Now he is imitating Uncle John's prowess in being able to switch most effectively between centre-half and centre-forward, and it seems certain that Jeremy will soon become an institution in the Welsh national side just as his dad Mel, and uncle John were 20 years ago.

Les Allen made his name as a rampaging forward for Spurs in the Jimmy Greaves, Bobby Smith and Cliff Jones era. Now son Clive threatens to be one of the most explosive strikers in the capital since those days, while nephew Paul Allen has made an immediate



Tony Hateley in his Liverpool striking days. Now son Mark is hoping to prove equally successful at Coventry.

Alan Devonshire.

The name's the same at Mansfield where Russ Allen has a tremendous burden in trying to emulate dad Ronnie, a prolific goalscorer at West Bromwich Albion.

On the other hand Gordon McQueen is already a much bigger name than his father ever was, though Tommy McQueen was a very dependable goalkeeper with Accrington Stanley in the mid-50's, and another goalkeeper from around that time Ipswich Town's Roy Bailey is confident son Gary, who plays with Gordon at Manchester United, will be even better than he was.

And the Clarke family seems to go on for ever. Although Frank, who gave sterling service to Ipswich, Queens Park Rangers and Carlisle, and Derek, who scored goals for Oxford and Orient, have both retired, the most famous son Allan continues to thrive on his life as player-manager of Barnsley, and coming along nicely are his two younger brothers Wayne, who has them drooling at Wolves, and Kelvin, who's started at Walsall.

Dad Clarke may not have been a professional — but my goodness he knew how to produce winners as sons!

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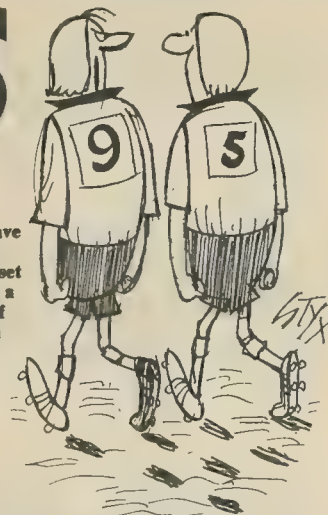
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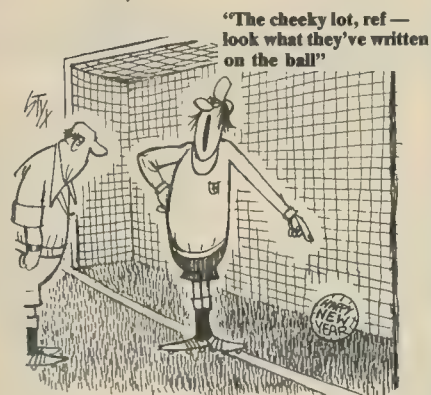
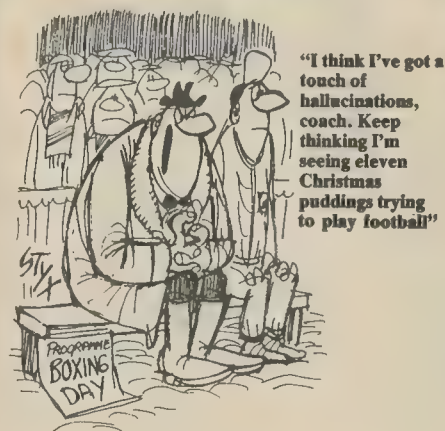
Ipswich Town's Arnold Muhren selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.



"The boss gave me a strange present — a set of goalposts, a ball, a pair of glasses and a compass"



"Remember — the one who gets the motto kicks-off"



SPOT THE DIFFERENCES

At first glance these two cartoons appear to be identical. But look again, there are ten differences. Can you spot them? The answers are on page 47.



CLUB SPOTLIGHT

LIVERPOOL

Bob Paisley

ASK most football mad youngsters which Football League club they would most like to play for and before the question has left your lips they are likely to rattle off one of the big three — Liverpool, Manchester United or Arsenal.

Liverpool and their two First Division counterparts spring most readily to mind for the simple fact that they are the best at their business.

Cold statistics speak volumes when you analyse Liverpool's performances since they returned to the First after winning the Second Division Championship in 1961-62.

Their 3-0 trouncing of Leeds United at Elland Road on the night of Thursday, May 17th, 1979, represented a purple moment of modern football history.

For it wrapped up their 11th Championship winning season with a record First Division points-total of 68. Their haul of 85 League goals landed them a further £50,000 prize in a competition run by a national newspaper and leading bookmakers.

At the other end of the pitch, Liverpool enjoyed another remarkable achievement. Ray Clemence kept his goal intact no fewer than 34 times, 28 of them in the First Division to shatter the previous best of 25 set up by Bob Wilson in Arsenal's goal in 1970-71. Clemence was beaten only 16 times in 42 games, a staggering feat even by one of the finest goalkeepers in the world.

Most clubs have one glorious season when they carry all before them and their fans go from one Mardi Gras to the next. Liverpool are different — they make a habit of defying the odds.

For more seasons than most care to remember Liverpool have



The Red Army marching on to more glory

run the gauntlet of this sort of comment: "I don't think they are quite as good as they were last season."

There were rumblings of criticism at the start of this season when they lay in eighth place in the First Division after five games. That was Saturday, September 15th.

"Dalglish has lost his hunger for goals," they said. Phil Neal, England's right-back in more than 20 internationals, was the subject of some abuse, and the critics were adamant that Liverpool without the injured Ray Kennedy driving forward on the left side of midfield were a pale shadow of the

side with others wearing the number five shirt.

By the end of October they were third in the table behind Manchester United and Nottingham Forest. Their 4-0 defeat of Manchester City before 48,000 fans at Maine Road restored the confidence in their faithful band of supporters. Dalglish scored two on that memorable afternoon of October 27th, and David Johnson and Ray Kennedy completed the rout.

Another 4-0 victory, this time over Middlesbrough, at Anfield, on Saturday, December 1st, confirmed that Liverpool were back on song. Terry McDermott,



Liverpool's second goal against Everton from Ray Kennedy's immaculate left foot.

Alan Hansen, David Johnson and Ray Kennedy did the damage that day — and Bob Paisley's "Red Army" moved menacingly into second place in the table, only one point behind Manchester United with a game in hand.

If Coventry, West Bromwich Albion, Tottenham or Southampton were threatening Manchester United's title hopes in second place, the Old Trafford club would rest more easily at nights.

But with Liverpool in second place, it's a different matter. Put another way, Sebastian Coe would welcome anyone other than Steve Ovett at his shoulder as he rounds the curve into the final straight in the Olympic Stadium in Moscow next summer. There is nothing more formidable than a proven Champion attempting to reclaim the crown that by rights he believes is his for the keeping.

Liverpool have not simply confined their winning ways to the League. Their defeat of Norwich in the Quarter-Finals of the League Cup on Wednesday, December 5th

continued on page 42

Kenny Dalglish's second goal in Liverpool's 4-0 trouncing of Manchester City.



BACK ROW (left to right)
 Avi Cohen, Phil Neal, Ray
 Clemence, Steve Ogrizovic,
 Alan Hansen, Colin Irwin,
 Frank McGarvey
CENTRE ROW Joe Fagan
 (asst. manager), Kevin
 Sheedy, David Fairclough,
 Ray Kennedy, David
 Johnson, Graeme Souness,
 Alan Kennedy, Ronnie
 Moran (coach)
FRONT ROW Jimmy Case,
 Steve Heighway, Kenny
 Dalglish, Bob Paisley
 (manager), Phil Thompson,
 Terry McDermott, Sammy
 Lee

LIVER



POOL



SHOOT!

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

continued

confirmed that they are determined to go one better than the runners-up position they achieved during 1977-78.

The League Cup, the Cinderella of domestic competitions but one which gains in status year by year, has eluded the mighty Anfield club in the past and they are determined to make amends this season.

Liverpool's strength is that they can change the personnel with no loss of power. Emlyn Hughes was a giant at the heart of their defence in more than 400 League appearances, but when he left the club to sign for Wolves this year his departure created no loss of effectiveness.

Why? Because Bob Paisley, arguably the shrewdest club manager in the world, had had the foresight to know that Hughes could not go on forever and that Alan Hansen, the former Partick Thistle defender, had confirmed last season that he was worthy of a permanent first team place on merit alone.

Steve Heighway, once the most dangerous left-winger in the First Division, has been displaced from the side with no loss of effectiveness on the left flank. Such is the strength of the club that Heighway retains his Republic of Ireland place, yet for much of this season has been handed the number 12 shirt by Paisley before matches.

The Heighway situation typifies the spirit of Liverpool. Other First

Division stars with lesser clubs than the Merseyside giants would have stormed into the manager's office threatening mayhem. Not Steve. He accepted the position philosophically, and is made to feel as much a part of the spirit of Liverpool as he did when he was bursting past right-backs at the height of his fame.

Bob Paisley, his trusty assistant Joe Fagan, and coach Ronnie Moran have no time for prima donnas or trouble-makers. It is reliably recorded that one youngster was allowed to leave Anfield because his father tried to stir trouble whenever he came to the club. That discarded youth went on to play for England with another club.

It is no surprise that Liverpool's stars have refrained from catching the slow-boat to the Continent and a fortune for pulling on a shirt for a West German club. Kevin Keegan made the break because there was little more he could achieve at Anfield and wanted to fulfill an ambition. But that was a long time ago. Dalglish, Clemence, Thompson and the others are unlikely to be tempted, however large the purse offered for their services.

Playing for Liverpool is enough to satisfy their appetites for glory.

So what is special about playing for Liverpool? For 15 years Liverpool have been going up, up, up. Good players have joined Liverpool and become great players. The list is endless. Roger Hunt, Ian Callaghan, Ron Yeats, Tommy Smith, Ian St. John, Kevin Keegan, Emlyn Hughes, Kenny



More silver for the sideboard. The Charity Shield won at Wembley against Arsenal in August.

Dalglish.

Ray Kennedy joined the club from Arsenal as an above average striker, if a few pounds overweight. Now, he represents one of the finest left sided midfield experts in the country. And he has played for England since joining them.

Terry McDermott was a rapidly improving midfield player when he signed from Newcastle. He has since played for England.

Graeme Souness was above average at Middlesbrough. Now he is recognised as gold dust. Jimmy Case? Local born and bred. How long will it be before his power shooting, sharp tackling and eye for a telling pass win him international recognition?

Case and Alan Kennedy are the only players at Anfield not to have been granted full international status. Mick Mills and Ken Sansom are likely to limit Kennedy's chances but there would be no complaints if he was drafted into the England team if the opportunity was available to Ron Greenwood.

Liverpool's secret is simple, yet eludes many other League clubs. Their players are wholly dedicated, the discipline is firm but not strangling, their style of play has few frills, the behaviour of the players on the field is exemplary, and their big-match temperament unrivalled.

One of Kenny Dalglish's two



Graeme Souness.

goals in Liverpool's 3-0 defeat of Wolves at Anfield on Saturday, November 3rd is typical of the message Bob Paisley drums into his players: "Play it simple but fast."

The goal destroyed Wolves' left flank and left three of their outfield players chasing red shadows. Ray Clemence started the move, Phil Thompson slipped the ball neatly to Phil Neal, in the right-back position, who made ground before slipping a measured pass to David Johnson. The big striker now playing the best football of his career, brushed a first time pass into Terry McDermott's stride on the right wing, who in turn made ground and centred to Dalglish.

Dalglish spent a fraction of a second doing what he does best — and his shot flew past Paul Bradshaw. He said afterwards that his task was the easiest.

He chose instead to praise David Johnson's pass to Terry McDermott. That self-effacing modesty says it all.

Bob Paisley gives the star-system short shrift. He preaches that the club is more important than any player — even Kenny Dalglish, first-choice striker for most boys choosing their fictional Great Britain XI.

That is what being great is all about.



Ray Clemence in England form against Arsenal in the Charity Shield.



Terry McDermott, better for his move to Liverpool.

TAKE A BREAK—IT'S

Quiz Time



TRANSFERS

The players listed have all been transferred this season. Their former clubs are in brackets . . . can you name the sides they joined?

1. Terry Bullivant (above, Fulham)
2. John Gidman (Aston Villa)
3. Eric Steele (Brighton)
4. George Reilly (Northampton)

TRUE OR FALSE?

5. Garth Crooks (below) started his League career at Port Vale before joining Stoke City.
6. Glasgow Rangers' Tommy Forsyth is affectionately known as 'Jaws'.
7. Bradford City play their home games at Valley Parade.
8. Southampton have won the F.A. Cup on more occasions than Ipswich Town.



PICTURE PUZZLE

Study the action photograph above, taken during the Tottenham v. Derby game this season, and see if you can answer the following questions.

13. Where was the game played?
14. Was the result 1-0, 2-1 or 3-2 to Spurs?
15. Can you identify the two players?
16. Who are the managers of the two clubs?

SPOT THE STARS

Read the following clues and see if you can identify the stars.

17. He has played for Leeds United, Birmingham City, Stoke City and Manchester United. This striker scored the winner in the 1977 F.A. Cup Final and is rated by many as unlucky never to have won a full England cap.

18. Started his career with Newcastle, then moved to West Ham. He returned to the North-East with Sunderland before going back to The Hammers. Made a second trip to the Roker Park club during the summer.

19. This controversial character made his name with Blackpool. A record cheque took him to Everton where he helped them win the 1970 League Championship. Later, moved to a London club and is now starring on the South Coast.

20. After many years playing alongside his brother, this star defender (right) was transferred to the European Champions at the start of this season.



LEAGUE CUP

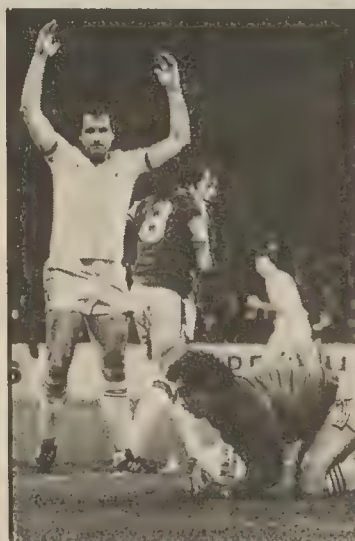
The Quarter-Finals of the Football League Cup were played recently. See if you can answer the following questions about the ties.

9. Holders Forest drew 0-0, 1-1 or 2-2 with West Ham at Upton Park (left)?

10. Who scored Liverpool's goals in their 3-1 win at Norwich?

11. Did Alan Sunderland score Arsenal's goal in their 1-1 draw with Third Division Swindon from a free-kick or penalty?

12. First Division Wolves and Third Division Grimsby Town met in the other Quarter-Final. Was the first game played at Molinuex or Blundell Park and what was the score?



ANSWERS

1. Aston Villa; 2. Everton; 3. Watford; 4. Cambridge; 5. False — Stoke won the trophy once; 6. True; 7. True; 8. False — they have both won the trophy once; 9. 0-0; 10. Johnson (2); 11. Penalty; 12. Blundell Park; 13. White Hart Lane, home of Spurs; 14. 1-0; 15. Tottenham's Ardiles (left) and Derby's Keith Osgood; 16. Keith Burkinshaw (Spurs) and Colin Addison (Derby); 17. Jimmy Greenhoff (Manchester United); 18. Bryan Robson; 19. Alan Ball of Southampton; 20. Frankie Gray of Nottingham Forest.

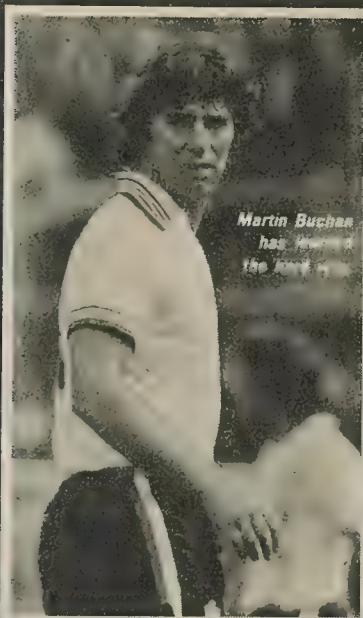
AFTER losing to Grasshoppers in the U.E.F.A. Cup and struggling to gain a respectable League position, Ipswich's Terry Butcher realises there is a long battle ahead to climb the table.

Yet although his team's exit from Europe was a tremendous disappointment to him, Butcher is confident Town can fight their way clear of the bottom end of Division One.

He says: "So far, we haven't been playing together as a team. Our manager, Bobby Robson, has told us that if four players are not making a full contribution to the overall effort the side won't function efficiently.

"I'm not making excuses when I say we were unlucky not to win at home following our 0-0 away draw against Grasshoppers in the U.E.F.A. Cup. I thought we had the best of the game at Portman Road. We took the lead and they equalised from one of their very few chances. This is part of the Continentals' game, though — they usually create fewer opportunities than English teams, but are better at tucking them away when they turn up.

"We were handicapped by not being able to adopt our usual type of game. Winger Clive Woods was out with a groin injury, yet I still



Martin Buchan has warned the team

believe we deserved to win. Not having any further interest in Europe is a blow, because it gave us something to play for. However, with all that behind us, there is the top priority job ahead of making sure we aren't involved in a relegation struggle.

"To be at the wrong end of the table isn't pleasant, and I can't afford to feel sorry for any of the other struggling teams. To me, it's all a case of Ipswich having to get out of danger.

"I didn't do well at the start of the season. Kevin Beattie's return means that I have had to play at left-back, which is a change from my usual position in the middle of defence. But it is very valuable experience, because it makes me aware of what each member of the defence expects from his teammates in certain situations.

"I've been trying to get back to my best form, and feel I've been improving. As a centre-back, I found that an important part of my game depended on anticipating

the moves of the opposition, and there wasn't as much running involved as at full-back."

It was in the middle of defence that Butcher hit the headlines last season — after making his Ipswich debut away to Everton. He was 19, and played in only 27 more games before his selection for the England Under-21 side in a friendly against Sweden six months ago.

Since then, the giant defender has nursed an ambition to gain a regular place in the England team, though he admits that in these testing days at Portman Road, his concentration is centred on an Ipswich revival.

"For the moment I have just got to forget any international hopes I have. What we need at Ipswich is a string of wins similar to those we managed during a good spell last season, and as the composition of the side hasn't been drastically altered since that time, I believe we've the potential to collect points regularly.

"And there have been signs that we can do so. We played superbly to beat Southampton 3-1 recently, but the problem is that we haven't been able to find the consistency we achieved last season.

"The remedy lies in our own hands. And if I need any personal incentive, I can get it from thinking of what Martin Buchan once told me — he said that nobody thought that Manchester United could ever be relegated, but they were.

"And Martin's warning will be with me until Ipswich fight their way to a respectable League position in the New Year."

Butcher fears Buchan's warning



Terry Butcher heads clear from the Grasshoppers defence, but he was unable to prevent Ipswich's exit from the U.E.F.A. Cup.

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WHOEVER did the Christmas fixtures this year certainly wasn't a Manchester United fan! We could hardly have had two harder fixtures to kick-off the holiday period with . . . Nottingham Forest at home and Liverpool away. Those matches are followed up by Arsenal's visit to Old Trafford and Bolton coming here soon after. Three home games and one away; in that respect it could have been worse. We must be looking to win all our home matches and avoid defeat at Anfield to maintain our title challenge.

Forest have slipped a little lately, although they are still very much in contention. They've missed Archie Gemmill's midfield drive. Brian Clough tried to replace Archie with Asa Hartford, but it didn't work out. Now, Tony Woodcock has gone and while this will enable Trevor Francis to play in his best position up-front, Forest must feel Tony's departure because he is such a good player.

I wasn't surprised Forest lost at Southampton — The Dell isn't the easiest of grounds for visitors. I was more shocked by defeats against Brighton and Derby. Against The Rams, Peter Shilton proved that he is human by making a couple of errors. I was beginning to have my doubts! His mistakes were highlighted, which is a backhanded compliment; he makes so few mistakes that when he does they become talking points.

I was on the wrong end of two defeats by Forest last season when they thumped nine goals past Chelsea within a few weeks. I don't remember too much from those matches except kicking-off a lot!

'It could hardly be tougher'

Ray Wilkins
WRITES
FOR YOU



Really, they were no-contests and we didn't even give them a game at Stamford Bridge.

Forest beat United 4-0 at Old Trafford in 1977-78. I remember admiring the goals on television. I doubt if it'll be a similar story THIS time, however, and I'm sure we can go one better than the 1-1 draw last season.

Anfield is still the supreme test for any side. Old Trafford used to be in the same category and it's

almost that way again now, but I'd have to concede that taking on Liverpool in front of The Kop is THE yardstick. They simply don't lose at home — can you remember the last team to win there?

Over the years, when I've played there with Chelsea, we've done reasonably well, but I've never been on the winning side. It's like facing a Red Army running at you non-stop for 90 minutes.

Anfield is a place where I'd be delighted to come away from with a point. It's going to be some match — they could fill Anfield twice for our visit this season.

Arsenal are by no means out of the Championship race — they're well-organised and have three or four players capable of winning a game with one flash of genius.

We drew with them at Highbury, although they were the better team. The Gunners have an impressive away record and won't be easy to

break down.

I know just how Bolton feel right now. I've been through the relegation worries with Chelsea. While there is hope, Bolton's morale will be good; the worst is when you are actually down and just playing out the season.

Bolton will be hoping for a good Christmas because they know if they are in the same position after the holiday period, their backs will really be against the wall.

There is still a long way to go, but at the same time Bolton must start picking up points regularly now.

I'll be spending Christmas Day with Jackie. I don't think my parents are coming up as most of the family are going to THEIR house. I believe United are spending the night in an hotel to prepare for the Liverpool game. This is a bit unfair on the wives and it isn't as if there is a long journey involved.

Still, I accept these inconveniences as part of the job and if we get a good result at Anfield, no one will mind.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year — see you in 1980.

Ray Wilkins



"Joe Jordan (left) congratulates United striker Jimmy Greenhoff, scorer in last season's 1-1 draw against Nottingham Forest at Old Trafford."

LINE-UPS...RESULTS...SCORERS...

Friday, November 16

Third Division

COLCHESTER (3) 5 (Lee, Packer 2, Hodge, Gough)
PLYMOUTH (1) 2 (Kemp, Cook o.g.)

3,520

Colchester: Walker, Cook, Packer, Leslie, Wignall, Dowman, Hodge, Gough, Foley, Lee, Rowles.

Plymouth: Crudgington, Hodges, McNeill, Randall, Foster, Phillips-Masters, Trusson, Kemp (James), Sims, Bason, Harrison.

Fourth Division

STOCKPORT (0) 0
NEWPORT (3) 5 (Oakes, Bruton, Aldridge 3)

3,407

Stockport: Lawson, Edwards (Sherlock), Rutter, Fogarty, Czuczman, Chapman, Lovell, Bradd, Henson, Park, Sword.

Newport: Dowler, Walden, Relish, Bruton (D), Oakes, Bailey, Vaughan, Lowndes, Tynan, Aldridge, Moore (Davies).

Saturday, November 17

First Division

ARSENAL (0) 2 (Stapleton 2)
EVERTON (0) 0

33,637

Arsenal: Jennings, Devine, Nelson, Talbot, O'Leary, Young, Brady (Gatting), Vaessen, Stapleton, Price, Rix.

Everton: Hodge, Gidman, Bailey, Wright, Higgins, Ross, Hartford, Stanley, Latchford (Lyons), Kidd, King.

ASTON VILLA (1) 2 (Mortimer, Evans, pen)

STOKE (1) 1 (Scott)

27,086

Aston Villa: Rimmer, Swain, Pejic, Evans, McNaught, Mortimer, Bremner, Little, Gaddis, Cowans, Shaw.

Stoke: Jones, Evans, Scott, Johnson, Smith, Dodd, Heath, Irvine, O'Callaghan, Crooks, Randall.

BOLTON (0) 0
MAN. CITY (1) 1 (Daley)

25,515

Bolton: McDonagh, Clement, Burke, Greaves, Jones, Walsh, Morgan, Whatmore, Gowling, Cantello, McNab.

Man. City: Corrigan, Ranson, Donachie, Bennett, Caton, Stepanovic, Henry, Daley, Robinson, Power, Deyna.

DERBY (0) 0
IPSWICH (1) 1 (Mariner)

16,699

Derby: McKellar, Langan, Buckley, Rioch (Clark), McCaffery, Osgood, Emery, Powell, Duncan, Davies, Hill.

Ipswich: Cooper, Burley, Mills, Thijssen, Osman, Butcher, Wark, Muhren, Mariner, Brazil, Gates.

LEEDS (0) 1 (Connor)
W.B.A. (0) 0

17,481

Leeds: Lukic, Cherry, Stevenson, Hird, Hart, Madeley (Connor), Gray, Hamson, Entwistle, Curtis, Harris.

W.B.A.: Godden, Batson, Pendrey, Mills, Wile, Robertson, Robson, Brown (A), Deehan, Brown (T), Barnes.

LIVERPOOL (1) 2 (McDermott 2)
TOTTENHAM (0) 1 (Jones)

51,092

Liverpool: Clemence, Neal, Kennedy (A), Thompson, Kennedy (R), Hansen, Dalglish, Case, Johnson, McDermott, Souness.

Tottenham: Aleksic, Hughton, McAllister, Yorath, Smith, Parryman, Ardiles, Jones, Armstrong, Hoddle, Villa.

MAN. UTD. (0) 1 (Jordan)
C. PALACE (0) 1 (Hinshelwood)

52,800

Man. Utd: Bailey, Nicholl, Houston, McIlroy, Moran, Buchan, Coppell, Wilkins, Jordan, Macari, Thomas (Grimes).

C. Palace: Burridge, Hinshelwood, Sansom, Nicholas, Cannon, Gilbert, Murphy, Francis (Walsh), Flanagan, Swindlehurst, Hilaire.

MIDDLESBROUGH (0) 1 (Armstrong)
BRISTOL CITY (0) 0

14,494

Middlesbrough: Platt, Craggs, Peters, Natrass, Ashcroft, McAndrew, Cochrane, Bell, Hodgson, Burns, Armstrong.

Bristol C.: Shaw, Sweeney, Gillies, Tainton, Rodgers, Merrick, Fitzpatrick, Ritchie, Mabbutt (Pritchard), Mann, Garland.

NORWICH (0) 2 (Fashanu, McGuire)
SOUTHAMPTON (1) 1 (Andruszewski)

18,215

Norwich: Keelan, Bond, Downs, McGuire, Brown, Powell, Goble, Reeves, Fashanu, Padon, Peters.

Southampton: Wells, Golac, Holmes, Williams, Watson, Weldron, Ball, Boyer, Channon, Andruszewski, Hebbard.

NOTT. FOREST (0) 0
BRIGHTON (1) 1 (Ryan)

25,837

Nott. Forest: Shilton, Anderson, Gray, McGovern, Lloyd, Needham, O'Neill, Francis, Birtles, Woodcock (Bowyer), Robertson.

Brighton: Moseley, Stevens, Williams, Horton, Foster, Suddaby, Ryan, Ward, Clarke, Lawrenson, O'Sullivan.

WOLVES (0) 0
COVENTRY (1) 3 (Wallace, Ferguson 2)

22,805

Wolves: Bradshaw, Palmer, Parkin, Daniel (Hughes), McAlle, Berry, Hibbitt, Carr, Gray, Richards, Eves.

Coventry: Sealey, Coop, McDonald, Gooding, Holton, Gillespie, Hutchison, Wallace, Ferguson, Blair, Hunt.

Second Division

BRISTOL R. (0) 1 (White)
NEWCASTLE (0) 1 (Shoulder)

7,626

Bristol R.: Jones (G), Bate, Williams, Mabbutt, Taylor, Aitken, Barrowclough, Parkinson, White, Dennehy, Pulis.

Newcastle: Hardwick, Brownlie, Davies, Martin, Barton, Boam, Shoulder, Cartwright, Withe, Rafferty, Hibbitt (Connolly).

BURNLEY (0) 0
LUTON (0) 0

7,055

Burnley: Stevenson, Arins, Brennan, Overson (R) (Burke), Overson (V), Dixon, James, Dobson, Fletcher, Young, Tate.

Luton: Findlay, Stephens, Donaghy, Grealish, Saxby, Price, Hill, West, Stein, Hatton, Moss.

CAMBRIDGE (1) 2 (Reilly, Biley)
WREXHAM (0) 0

4,472

Cambridge: Webster, Calderwood, Smith, Stringer, Fallon, O'Neill, Biley, Spriggs, Reilly, Gibbins, Christie.

Wrexham: Davies, Darracott, Dwyer, Davis, Jones, Roberts, Vinter, Sutton, Edwards, McNeil, Cartwright.

CARDIFF (0) 0
ORIENT (0) 0

8,119

Cardiff: Healey, Jones, Sullivan, Campbell, Pontin (Buchanan), Thomas, Grapes, Stevens, Moore, Ronson, Lewis.

Orient: Day, Fisher, Roffey, Margerrison, Gray, Taylor, Chiedozie, Hughton, Moores, Jennings, Coates.



Joe Jordan heads home for Man. United against Crystal Palace.

West Ham's Alvin Martin (left) and Billy Bonds challenge for possession against Swansea.



CHELSEA (0) 3 (Fillery, Britton 2 pens)
CHARLTON (1) 1 (Tydeman)

23,035

Chelsea: Borota, Locke, Sparrow (Langley), Bumstead, Droy, Chivers, Britton, Fillery, Frost, Walker, Harris.

Charlton: Johns, Hazell, Campbell, Tydeman, Berry, Madden, Powell, Wilson (Shaw), Hales, Walker, Gritt.

OLDHAM (0) 0
FULHAM (1) 1 (Greenaway)

5,753

Oldham: McDonnell, Wood, Edwards, Keegan, Clements, Blair, Valentine, Atkinson, Halom, Stainrod, Heaton.

Fulham: Digweed, Peters, Strong, Hatter, Money, Gale, Greenaway, Beck, Guthrie, Lock, Davies.

PRESTON (0) 1 (Bruce)
LEICESTER (0) 1 (Lineker)

10,038

Preston: Tunks, Taylor, Wilson (Potts), Burns, Baxter, O'Riordan, Bell, Haslegrave, Elliott, McGee, Bruce.

Leicester: Wallington, Williams, Rofe, O'Neill, May, Peake, Lineker, Kelly (Wilson), Young, Smith, Henderson.

Q.P.R. (1) 2 (McCreery, Roeder)
SHREWSBURY (0) 1 (King)

12,048

Q.P.R.: Woods, Shanks, Gillard (Waddock), McCreery, Hazell, Wicks, Bowles, Roeder, Allen, Currie, Goddard.

Shrewsbury: Mulhearn, King, Larkin, Lindsay, Griffin, Keay, Tong, Atkins, Biggins, Dungworth, Maguire.

SUNDERLAND (1) 3 (Robson 2, 1 pen., Cummins)
NOTTS CO (0) 1 (Masson)

21,896

Sunderland: Turner, Whitworth, Bolton, Clarke, Elliott, Buckley, Arnott, Cummins, Brown (Rowell), Robson, Dunn.

Notts Co.: Avramovic, Richards, O'Brien, Hunt (Christie), Stubbs, Blockley, McCulloch, Masson, Hooks, Benjamin, Mair.

WATFORD (1) 1 (Ward)
BIRMINGHAM (0) 0

14,378

Watford: Steele, Henderson, Harrison, Booth, Sims, Bolton, Pollard, Blissett, Ward, Train, Rostron.

Birmingham: Wealands, Todd, Dennis, Curbishley, Gallagher, Towers, Lynex, Evans (Bertschin), Givens, Dillon, Johnston.

WEST HAM (0) 2 (Brooking, Cross)
SWANSEA (0) 0

21,210

West Ham: Parkes, Stewart, Smith, Bonds, Martin, Holland, Allen, Devonshire, Cross, Brooking, Landsdowne.

Swansea: Letheran, Evans, Rushbury, Charles, Phillips, Stevenson, Craig, Attley, James, Mahoney (Waddle), Callaghan.

Third Division

CARLISLE (1) 1 (Staniforth)
SHEFF. UTD. (0) 0

6,347

Carlisle: Swinburne, Hoolickin, Winstanley, MacDonald, Ludlam, Parker, McVitie, Bonnyman, Bannon, Hamilton, Staniforth.

Sheff. Utd.: Conroy, Cutbush, Tibbott, Kenworthy, McPhail, Matthews, de Goey (Jones), Speight, Butlin, Bourne, Sabella.

CHESTER (0) 1 (Phillips)
MANSFIELD (0) 0

2,920

Chester: Millington, Raynor, Walker, Storton, Cottam, Oakes, Sutcliffe, Jones, Rush, Henderson, Phillips.

Mansfield: Arnold, Thompson, Wood, Curtis, Bird, McClelland, Lathan, Taylor, Austin, Thomson, Allen.

CHESTERFIELD (2) 7 (Walker, Sanchez o.g., Moss 2, Birch, Salmons 2)
READING (1) 1 (Kearns)

4,427

Chesterfield: Tingay, Tartt, O'Neill, Ridley, Green, Kowalski, Birch, Moss, Walker, Crawford, Salmons.

Reading: Death, Hetzke, White, Bowman, Shipperley, Moreline, Kearney, Kearns, Heale, Sanchez (Williams), Joslyn.

EXETER (0) 0
OXFORD (0) 0

3,550

Exeter: O'Keefe, Mitchell, Hatch, Hore, Giles, Forbes, Neville, Pearson, Bowker, Delve, Rogers (P).

Oxford: Burton, McIntosh, Fogg, Briggs, Stott, Jeffrey, Berry, Duncan (McGrogan), Foley, Cooke, Hodgson.

GILLINGHAM (0) 2 (Price, Funnell)
BURY (1) 1 (Johnson)

5,371

Gillingham: Hillyard, Young, Barker, Overton, Weatherley, Crabbe, Nicholl, White, Price, Westwood, Richardson (Funnell).

Bury: Forrest, Ritson, Halford, Waldron, Whitehead, Howard, Madden, Wilson, Johnson, Hilton, Mullen.

LINE-UPS...RESULTS...SCORERS...

GRIMSBY (1) 1 (Waters pen.)
WIMBLEDON (0) 0 6,716
Grimsby: Batch, Stone, Moore (K), Waters, Wigginton, Crombie, Broly, Ford, Liddell, Kilmore, Mitchell.
Wimbledon: Goddard, Briley (Ketteridge), Jones, Galliers, Bowgett, Downes, Lewington, Parsons, Leslie, Cork, Dziadulewicz.

HULL (0) 0
BARNSELEY (0) 2 (McCarthy, Hood o.g.) 8,327
Hull: Blackburn, Hood, Skipper, Haigh, Dobson, Tait, Roberts, Moss, Edwards, Hawker, Nisbet.
Barnsley: Springett, Flavell, Collins, Hunter, McCarthy, Pugh, Glavin, Clarke, Lester, Banks, Aylott.

MILLWALL (1) 2 (Chatterton, Mitchell)
BLACKPOOL (0) 0 5,979
Millwall: Jackson, Donaldson, Kinsella, Chatterton, Tagg, Blyth, Townner, Seaman, Mehmet, Lyons, Mitchell.
Blackpool: Hesford, Gardner, Pashley, Thompson, Ashurst, McEwan, Bowey (Wilson), Kel-low, Spence, Doyle, Weston.

ROTHERHAM (2) 4 (Green, Finney, McEwan 2)
BRENTFORD (1) 2 (McNichol 2, 1 pen.) 4,709
Rotherham: Mountford, Tiler, Breckin, Rhodes, Stancilffe, Green, Finney, Fern, Gwyther, McEwan, Nic.
Brentford: Bond, Salmon, Tucker, McNichol, Kruse, Fraser, Alder, Graham, Holmes (L), (Fear), Smith, Phillips.

SHEFF. WED. (0) 2 (Mellor, King)
SOUTHEND (0) 0 10,563
Sheff. Wed.: Bolder, Shirliff, Grant, Pickering, Smith, Hornsby, Wylde, Porterfield, Mellor, McCulloch, King.
Southend: Cawston, Dudley, Moody, Walker, Pountney, Stead, Otulakowski, Hadley, Parker, Tuohy, Gray.

SWINDON (0) 2 (Kamara, Miller)
BLACKBURN (0) 0 7,086
Swindon: Allan, Lewis, Ford, McHale, Tucker (Carter), Stroud, Miller, Kamara, Rowland, Mayes, Williams.
Blackburn: Arnold, Branagan, Morley, Kendall (Parkes), Keeley, Fazackerley, Brotherston, McKenzie, Craig, Crawford, Metcalfe.

Fourth Division

ALDERSHOT (2) 3 (Needham, Brodie 2)
HALIFAX (0) 1 (Burke) 3,352
Aldershot: Johnson, Scott, Wooler, Dixon, Bennett, Jopling, Crosby, Brodie, French, Needham, McGregor.
Halifax: Kilner, Geidmentis, Goodman (Whiteley), Evans, Harris, Hendrie, Dryhurst, Kennedy, Smith, Firth, Burke.

BOURNEMOUTH (0) 0
DONCASTER (0) 0 3,771
Bournemouth: Allen, Cunningham, Ferns, Impey, Townsend, Borthwick (Evanson), Holder, MacDougall, Butler, Chambers, Miller.
Doncaster: Peacock, Russell, Snodin, Pugh, Dowd, Lally, Lister, Nimmo, Warboys, Lewis, Flanagan.

CREWE (0) 0
DARLINGTON (0) 0 2,366
Crewe: Felgate, Wilkinson, Bowers, Hunter, Scott, Proffett, McMahon, Guy, Chesters, Nelson, Coyne.
Darlington: Owers, Nattress, Cochrane, Ball, Craig, Smith, McLean, Charlton (Walsh), Stalker, Taylor, Ellis.

HEREFORD (1) 1 (Feeley)
ROCHDALE (1) 1 (Marshall o.g.) 2,767
Hereford: Hughes, Price, Burrows, Marshall, Layton, Hunt, Feeley, Birchenell, McGrellis (Cunningham), Phillips, White.
Rochdale: Watson, Hallows, Snookes, Hoy, Bannon, Weir (Hart), Esser, O'Loughlin, Hilditch, Seal, Wann.



Nicky Chatterton (Mill-wall).

HUDDERSFIELD (1) 1 (Fletcher)
TRANMERE (1) 1 (Beamish) 7,069
Huddersfield: Starling, Brown, Robinson, Stanton, Sutton, Topping, Laverick, Hart, Fletcher, Robins, Cowling (Purdie).
Tranmere: Johnson, Mathias, Flood, Bramhall, Edwards, Evans, O'Neil, Parry, Lumby, Beamish, Peplow (Mungall).

NORTHAMPTON (1) 2 (O'Donoghue, Farrington)
HARTLEPOOL (0) 1 (Newton) 2,251
Northampton: Poole, Walker, Sandercock, Byatt, Waldoock, Farrington, Denyer, Sargent, Farmer, McCaffrey, O'Donoghue.
Hartlepool: Burleigh, Sweeney, Carr, Lawrence, Higgins, Ayre, Gorry, Houchen, Newton, Harding, Loadwick.

PETERBOROUGH (1) 1 (Guy)
WALSALL (1) 3 (Penn, Waddington, McDonagh) 4,019
Peterborough: Waugh, Carmichael, Collins, Guy, Smith, Foster, Quow (Robson), Kellock, Cliss, Parkinson, Syrett.
Walsall: Green, Paul, Mower, Sbragia, Serella, Broadhurst, Penn, Williams, McDonough, Waddington, Caswell.

PORTSMOUTH (1) 4 (Garwood 2, Laidlaw 2, 1 pen)
LINCOLN (0) 0 14,620
Portsmouth: Knight, Ellis, Viney, Brisley, Aizlewood, Davey, Garwood (Purdie), Laidlaw, Ashworth, Bryant, Rogers.
Lincoln: Grotier, Carr, Neale, Watson, Saunders, Peake, Hobson, Cockerill, Harford, Cunningham, Ball.

PORT VALE (0) 1 (Wright)
TORQUAY (0) 1 (Cooper) 2,643
Port Vale: Dance, Keenan, Griffiths, Beech, Bowles, Sproson, Chamberlain (N), Farrell, Wright, Jones, Bentley (Bromage).
Torquay: Turner, Pethard, Ritchie, Larmour, Bourne, Sermanni, Davies, Cox (Lawrence), Cooper, Twitchin, Murphy.

WIGAN (3) 4 (Gore, Hinnigan, Urquhart, Quinn)
SCUNTHORPE (0) 1 (Partridge) 4,618
Wigan: Brown, Fretwell, Hinnigan, Gore, Methven, Davids, Corrigan, Wright, Urquhart, Quinn, Houghton.
Scunthorpe: Gordon, Davy, Pilling, Kavanagh, Dall, Oates, Cowling, Partridge, Green, Cammack, Keeley.

YORK (1) 2 (Randall, Kay)
BRADFORD C (1) 2 (McNiven, Martinez) 3,832
York: Neenan, Kay, Harrison, Ford, Faulkner, Clements, Randall, Lorimer, Eccles, McDonald, Wellings.
Bradford C: Smith, Reaney, Watson, Wood, Baines, Cooper, Podd, Dolan, Staniforth, McNiven, Martinez.

Scottish Premier

CELTIC (2) 3 (Lennox, Sullivan, Edvaldsson)
HIBS (0) 0 25,000
Celtic: Latchford, Sneddon, McGrain, Aitken, McAdam, MacLeod, Provan, Sullivan, Edvaldsson, Conroy, Lennox.
Hibs: McArthur, Brazil, McGlinchey, Rae, Paterson, McNamara, Callachan, Ward, Duncan, MacLeod, Higgins.

DUNDEE UTD (0) 0
ST MIRREN (0) 0 5,500
Dundee Utd: McAlpine, Stark, Kopel, Fleming, Phillip, Narey, Bannon, Dodds (Pettigrew), Docherty (Sturrock), Holt, Milne.
St Mirren: Thomson, Young, Munro, Richardson, Fulton, Copland, Bone, Stark, Somner, McDougall, Abercrombie.

KILMARNOCK (0) 0
PARTICK (1) 1 (Park) 5,000
Kilmarnock: McCulloch, McLean, Robertson, Clark, Clarke, McDicken, Gibson (Cairney), Maxwell, Bourke, Mauchien, Street (Houston).
Partick: Rough, McKinnon, Whittaker, Campbell, Anderson, Gibson (McDonald), O'Hara, Doyle, McAdam, Melrose, Park.

MORTON (1) 2 (Ritchie pen, Anderson)
DUNDEE (0) 0 6,500
Morton: Baines, Hayes, Holmes, Anderson, McLaughlin, Orr, McNeill, Miller, Russell (Scott), Hutchison, Ritchie.
Dundee: Donaldson, Barr, Schaedler, Millar, Glennie, McGeachie, Murphy, McLaren, Pirie, Sinclair, Shirra (Williamson).

RANGERS (0) 0
ABERDEEN (0) 1 (Harper) 16,000
Rangers: McCloy, Forsyth, Dawson, Stevens, Jardine, Watson, McLean, Miller (MacDonald (J)), Johnstone, MacDonald (A), Smith.
Aberdeen: Clark, Kennedy, Rougvie, McLeish, Garner, Miller, Strachan, Archibald, Harper, McMaster, Scanlon (McGhee).

Scottish First

AIRDRIE (0) 0
DUMBARTON (0) 0 6,000
Ayr (1) 2 (Connor pen, Morris)
CLYDEBANK (1) 2 (Miller, Given) 2,760
DUNFERMLINE (1) 1 (McNaughton pen)
ARBROATH (1) 1 (Yule) 2,000
HEARTS (0) 1 (O'Connor)
STIRLING (0) 0 4,500

MOTHERWELL (0) 1 (McLaughlin)
RAITH (1) 3 (Ballantyne, Harrow 2) 2,200
ST JOHNSTONE (2) 3 (Brogan, Pelosi, Rutherford pen)
BERWICK (1) 3 (Smith G 2, Moyes) 2,189
 Postponed: Hamilton v Clyde.

Scottish Second

ALLOA (0) 1 (Holt)
STRANRAER (0) 1 (Gibb) 530
BRECHIN (1) 1 (Campbell II)
COWDENBEATH (1) 3 (Marshall, Harley, Steele) 400
E. FIFE (0) 1 (Neilson)
QUEEN'S PARK (1) 1 (Irvine) 571
FALKIRK (3) 3 (Brown, Stevenson, Leetion)
Q OF S (1) 1 (Phillips) 2,000
MONTROSE (3) 5 (Murray 2, Oliver 2, Taylor)
STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 0 500
 Postponed: 3. Ellistown v Forfar.

Sunday, November 18

Scottish Second

ALBION (1) 3 (Franchetti 2, Meikle)
MEADOWBANK (0) 1 (Brown) 450

League of Ireland

ATHLONE TOWN (0) 1 (Whelan pen)
ST PATRICK'S ATH (0) 0
Athlone Town: Smyth, Feniuk, Whelan, Fullam, Smith, O'Connor, Shelley, Clarke, Davis, Devlin, Wyse.
St Patrick's Ath: O'Brien, Higgins, Murphy, Doyle, Daley, Malone, Munnally, Browning, Carthy, Jameson, Kirwan (Magee).

CORK UNITED (1) 1 (Madden)
THURLES TOWN (2) 3 (Conway, Tierney, Steedman pen)
Cork United: Lennox, Neiland (B), Sheehan, Keane, Brohan, Waters (Lane (J)), Lane (R), Punch, Madden, Murphy, Neiland (P) (Ludzie).
Thurles Town: Dunne, Doran, McQuaid, O'Brien, Tierney, Heffernan, Conway (Seymour), Lawson, Steedman, Humphries (Lyons), Jenkins.

DROGHEDA UNITED (2) 3 (Leech, Carthy, Doran)
BOHEMIANS (1) 1 (Eviston)
Drogheda Utd: Forrestal, Haughey, Cameron, Byrne, Ferguson (Vavasour), Freeney, Leech, Martin (Doran), Tuite, Clarke, Carthy.
Bohemians: Davis, Gregg, Brady, Kelly, Burke, Whelan, O'Riordan (Lawless), McCormack, Cowhie (Byrne), Joyce, Eviston.

HOME FARM (0) 0
FINN HARPS (0) 0
Home Farm: Finnerty, Maher, Kelly, Breslin, Brady, Williams, Neville, King, O'Neill, Thomas, McCluskey.
Finn Harps: McDermott, Ferry, Monagle, McDowell, Sheridan, Duffy, Logan, McLoughlin (J), McLoughlin (C), Minnock, McGrony.

LIMERICK UNITED (0) 2 (Walsh, Hand pen)
DUNDALK (0) 0
Limerick Utd: Fitzpatrick, Ryan, Fitzgerald, O'Mahony, Storan, Hand, Nolan, Morris, Kennedy, Duggan, Walsh.
Dundalk: Blackmore, McConville, Lawlor (Martin), Keely, Dunning, Flanagan, Lawlor (Mick), Devine, Muckian, Byrne, Dainty.

SHAMROCK ROVERS (0) 2 (Campbell, O'Leary pen)
WATERFORD (0) 1 (Keane)
Shamrock Rovers: O'Neal, Mulligan, Burke, Synnott, O'Leary, Moagan, Gannon, Gaffney, Buckley, Campbell, Treacy.
Waterford: Thomas, O'Mahony, Gardiner, Jackson, Finucane, Madigan, Carey, McCarthy, Murray, Kirk, Keane.

SLIGO ROVERS (0) 2 (Bradley, Cavanagh)
GALWAY ROVERS (2) 2 (Mannion, Collins)
Sligo Rovers: Patterson, Fielding, O'Doherty (D), Fagan, Rutherford, Stenson, Cavanagh, Patton, Bradley, O'Doherty (G), Holmes.
Galway Rovers: Lally, Herrick, McDaid, Sheehan, Murphy, Nolan, Gaynor, Cooke, Cassidy, Collins (Quinlivan), Mannion.

UCD (4) 5 (Cassidy 4, Moran)
SHELBOURNE (0) 1 (O'Neill)
UCD: McCabe, Cowhie, Deeny, McDonnell, Fox, McGovern, Gough, Dignam, Cassidy, Drury, Moran.
Shelbourne: Byrne, Moody, Boyle, Last, Ryan, Cleary, Buggle (Nugent), McMahon, Donnelly (Carney), Delamere, O'Neill.

Answers to Spot The Difference

Stripe on defender's shorts.
 Striker's collar.
 Goal line.
 Studs on 'keeper's boot.
 Stripes on striker's sock.
 Defender's eyes moved.
 Fingers on 'keeper's fist.
 Laces on defender's boot.
 Striker's hair changed.
 Thumb missing from defender's hand.

LAST year we were all goggling at Osvaldo Ardiles and Ricardo Villa — just because they came from the other side of the world. You'd have thought they were Martians rather than Argentinians.

It's a sign of the times and the acceptance of foreign footballers in England, that we now have around 20 of them, and they're actually being treated like ordinary human beings.

Little Ardiles is a wonderful ambassador, of course, yet although he was playing in less exalted surroundings, his fellow countryman Alex Sabella made an equally significant contribution amid the steel-plated city of Sheffield.

Tarantini came and went, disillusioned and disillusioning when one saw after his flop at Birmingham, just how good he could be in an Argentina shirt.

This is bound to be a feature for foreigners in club football, men who just can't settle. Remember we've had our own romantics who flirted briefly with life abroad — Duncan McKenzie, Dave Watson and Roger Davies for example.

the search for South American talent, and he certainly unearthed a gem in the shape of Sabella.

Sunderland, who recently signed Claudio Marangoni, Ardiles' friend, for £320,000 from San Lorenzo, would gladly have coughed up over £500,000 worth of pesos — and that's a few million — to acquire Sabella's services, but Mrs Sabella had other ideas, and so the swarthy star stayed at Bramall Lane.

It was surprising Leeds failed to follow up their widely known interest in him, especially as they could give Mrs Sabella more house-keeping money, without moving a single ornament.

Still Haslam is happy (isn't he always?) especially as Alex has already scored more goals this season than he did in the whole of last, and he has a new colleague from abroad in Dutchman Lenny de Goey who has also found the way to goal.

De Goey has settled in nicely into midfield, and is looking a very good investment which is more than can be said for Pedro Verde, yet another South American, who

was enlisted from the Spanish club Hercules of Alicante, but who has yet to convince anyone he is good enough for League football.

So two hits and one miss at Bramall Lane.

If the South Americans tend to be something of a risk then it's fair to say the Dutch and Yugoslavians are a safer bet.

Ipswich, for example, are delighted with their double Dutch action last season, which brought them Arnold Mühren and Frans Thijssen.

Mühren is one of the most accomplished left-sided players in the game, and he has quickly become a huge favourite at Portman Road.

Thijssen is the more powerful, if less subtle of the two, and both fit in perfectly to Bobby Robson's jigsaw.

Gert Meijer is equally powerful and he made a very promising start for Bristol City, which although it has not been sustained augurs well at Ashton Gate.

Perhaps the only Dutchman not to have come up to expectations has been Look Ursem, Stoke City's



first capture from the Continent. Look has some nice touches, but seems to be still getting used to the pace of the First Division. As for the Slavs it's no

MIXED FORTUNES FOR FOREIGN

So it's a good time to assess the overall success of the trend towards foreign transfers.

Having said superfluously what an unqualified success Ardiles has been at Tottenham, one has to say by the same token that Ricky Villa was initially disappointing, although his form this season has vastly improved.

It seems hard to believe that Villa cost more than his close friend, but that is a fact. It is also a fact that Keith Burkinshaw would not have persuaded one out of South America without the other. With that knowledge the fees become insignificant.

His position in the Spurs team was in jeopardy, and he played in more midfield and striking permutations, than Britt Ekland has had boyfriends. Now, Villa is as important to Spurs as his "amigo" and has emerged as a star in his own right.

Although they're in the Third Division Sheffield United are an interesting study.

Harry Haslam was a pioneer in



coincidence that their goalkeepers are the prime target of English clubs.

Petar Borota has made mistakes at Chelsea, but behind a rickety defence he has also demonstrated an admirable capacity for keeping a secure goal, while becoming a hero with the fans who love his unorthodox style.

Notts County fans have taken to their new import Raddy Avramovic, and smile wonder after the start he's made to life at Meadow Lane.

Charlton have signed two players from Denmark, Johnny Oostergaard and Viggo Jacobsen who could become firm favourites at the Valley.

Up at Middlesbrough they've been raving about the form of Bosko Jankovic.

The most successful Yugoslav has been full-back Ivan Golac, of Southampton.

He helped Saints to the League Cup Final in his initial season, and

Ipswich's Frans Thijssen (left) and Osvaldo Ardiles at Tottenham (above) have proved outstanding imports in British soccer, but Manchester City's Polish international Kazimierz Deyna (right) has struggled to find top form.



although he is now apparently at odds with Lawrie McMenemy over money, there is no doubting Ivan's defensive qualities. And at Maine Road, Malcolm

Allison must have been tremendously impressed to have made Dragoslav Stepanovic his captain — especially at a difficult time in the club's history.

The Poles have not been such sound investments.

Kazimierz Deyna came to Manchester City in the wake of a well-earned reputation as one of the world's great stylists.

He has yet to break any pots, although Deyna is clearly such a good player that even during a difficult personal spell, he has been able to score some useful goals.

Tadeusz Nowak has found life equally problematical not far away at Bolton.

Like Deyna, the fleet-of-foot Nowak is barely a spring chicken and if he doesn't make an impression soon, one would expect his stay in British football to be a short one.

Other foreign players have done encouragingly well — Pertie Jantunen from Finland at Bristol City, and Avi Cohen from Israel at Liverpool.

Their presence can only be good for the game in England.

ENGLAND'S LEGION



GOALLINES

Send your letters to STEVE CARTER, GOAL-LINES, SHOOT!, IPC Magazines Ltd., King's Reach Tower, Stamford St., London SE1 9LS. U.K. readers receive £5 for the Star Letter — £2 for every other letter published. Overseas readers receive a special SHOOT T-shirt. Please state which size: small, medium or large. When writing to us please mention the two features you liked best in the latest issue of SHOOT!

This week's Star Letter comes from Gerard Scully of Castlemar, Co. Cork, who wins our special prize of £5. He writes:

HEADLINE CHUCKLES

★ As it's Christmas, let's concentrate on the funnier side of football rather than soccer violence. I have a collection of funny headlines which may give SHOOT readers a Christmas Chuckle:

*Kitchen Sinks Norwich
Lock Keeps 'Em Out
Everyone Beaten By Birch
Case Dismissed
Gunn On Target
Piper Plays On
Butcher Gets The Chop
Ball Bounces Back
Saved By Salvage
Forwards Tamed By Wylde
Penny Pays His Way
Peach Picked
Scales Weighs Up Opposition.*

Do other SHOOT readers remember any more 'punderful' headlines?

● Like Stoke Full Of Eastham Promise . . . A Little Of Norwich Is A Dangerous Thing or Oldham 'Old 'Em!

Enthusiastic Emlyn

THE inclusion of Emlyn Hughes in the England squad for the match against Bulgaria proved unpopular in some quarters. "He's too old" or "he's a has-been" say the critics.

What a pity they don't recognise the qualities Emlyn has to give to ANY squad.

Okay, so he's slowed up a little but Emlyn has one great quality . . . he wants to play for his country. You only have to see Emlyn when he does pull on the England jersey to know that and his enthusiasm rubs off on all around him.

STEVEN CARROLL,
KETTERING.

● Yes, Crazy Horse isn't ready to be put out to grass just yet and I wouldn't be surprised if Ron Greenwood keeps Hughes (right) in his squad until the European Championship Finals.



Stein's needs

ANY people are saying Jock Stein has done nothing in his year or so in charge of the Scottish national side. I disagree and believe he has a good foundation upon which to build for the 1982 World Cup.

Scotland's results haven't been good, but their performances have been first-class. Only in two departments do Scotland lack: in goal and someone to play alongside Kenny Dalglish in attack.

Surely Scotland have the men needed in David Harvey and Andy Gray? Once Scotland have a good, settled side and a run of successful results under their belts, things can only get better for those marvellous fans.

JOHN YOUNG,
SOUTH SHIELDS.

● Scotland have had what many people have considered a 'good' team for a while, but results, especially away from home, have been poor. I think Stein has a lot more to do than you say.

Offside bore

HAVING witnessed Tottenham's offside tactics this season, I was disappointed that one of the leading clubs can adopt such a 'skill'? The offside trap will surely drive fans away from the terraces?

S. CHAMBERS,
WIRRAL.

● The offside trap is perfectly legitimate and it's up to opponents to overcome it. It's legality is unquestionable — and so is its negative, boredom value.

Forest photo

AS an ardent Nottingham Forest fan, I was bitterly disappointed when you didn't publish a team picture of the European Champions in your 15th December issue. Why was this?

PETER THOMSON,
NOTTINGHAM.

● Unlike most clubs, Forest did not have a photo-call at the start of the season. They took their own team photo, but due to circumstances beyond our control we were unable to obtain it for publication.

Pen-pal

I AM a 13-year-old Norwegian boy and I'd like an English or Dutch pen-friend. My favourite teams are Liverpool and Ajax.

FREDRIK GIERTSEN,
FAGERTUNVN. 89,
1342 JAR,
NORWAY.



LEFT: Ricardo Villa shows his power and speed.



RIGHT: Osvaldo Ardiles about to unleash another inch-perfect pass.

SPURS' SUPERSTARS AT HOME AND AT PLAY



Guillermo Vilas need not worry. He's still Argentina's Number One tennis star! Ricky and Ossie have a welcome drink after a game of tennis, one of their favourite pastimes. With them is Villa's wife Cristina.



Ardiles the family man, with wife Sylvia and sons Pablo and Frederico.



SHOOT!



KEVIN ARNOTT
Sunderland

EVER wondered how the manager of a top football club spends his time leading up to the big kick-off on match day?

Most fans would love to spend a day on the "inside", to find out what goes on and how the managers prepare for the most important 90 minutes of their week.

Now SHOOT can provide the answers for you — courtesy of Norwich City boss John Bond, who has let us into his secrets.

Bond's match day starts around 8 a.m. when he wakes up. But this is the one day of the week he does not get up early.

He still follows the routine he observed through 16 years as a West Ham player by laying in until around 11 a.m.

Daughter Toni sees Dad off to work.



John and secretary, Fiona discuss the day's schedule.



A day in the life of **JOHN BOND**

"I'll lay there and read the papers to catch up with all the latest football news. And before I get up I'll decide exactly what I am going to wear," he says.

"It's important to know which suit I'll wear long before I get out of bed. Although there is no way it can affect the result of the game it sets the pattern for the day if I make up my mind on this sort of thing early.

"When I have showered and changed I'll then have the same meal I've had right through my career... a steak and three pieces of toast.

"That has never changed, and it never will. Although there is no need for me to watch what I eat now that I am no longer playing I would not feel right going to a game with a big meal inside me.

"And I follow another routine, I've always followed by cooking the steak myself.

"My wife, Janet, prepares one for our son Kevin — who plays at right-back in the Norwich team. But I insist on doing my own.

"And I NEVER do any household chores on match days — that's a superstition of mine.

"During the week I'll give a hand with making the bed, or a bit of washing-up if Janet is pushed. Not on Saturdays — she is on her own then.

"After lunch I'll sit down and relax by watching the football programmes on television and leave for the ground at 1.30 p.m.

"I seldom announce my team on Fridays. So the lads do not know who is playing until they arrive at the ground.

"They are all in by 1.45, when I sit them down in the dressing-room and name the line-up.

"We then go through a team-talk, when I outline the tactics I want us to use and I do my bit in getting the lads geared up for the match.

"I don't dwell too much on individual players in the opposing team. Most of them are well known to us and there's no point in filling players heads with a lot of detailed information. That tends to confuse them.

"The general strategy is outlined when I talk to the players as a group. But if there are any observations I want to make to individuals I'll move round to them one by one and chat to them as they

are getting stripped into their match kit.

"Again there is no question of going into detailed breakdowns of certain players we are facing.

"For instance on Boxing Day we are at home to Ipswich. They are only just down the road from us so we know as much about their lads as we are ever likely to know.

"All I do as the minutes to the kick-off tick by is to alert different players of the dangers they may face from certain situations — corners, free-kicks, etc.

"When all that is done I stay in the dressing-room or the treatment room next door to make sure I am always on hand if anyone needs me for anything.

"There was a time when I used to wander off into the boardroom or visitors lounge to chat to people around 2.30 p.m. Not any more. My place is with the team until the moment they leave the dressing-room to go on to the field and that's where I stay.

"At half-time I'm down from my seat in the grandstand and waiting for the lads.

'Disappointment'

"I'm usually the only one who says anything during the interval. And that's a bit of a disappointment to people like Ken Brown, my assistant-manager.

"If things have gone wrong for us during the opening 45 minutes the players rely on me to put them right. They are convinced I'll have all the answers and sit there waiting for me to come up with them.

"They don't say much at all — whereas Brown seems to think they should have some opinions.

"I spell out what I think needs to be done to change things before they go out for the second-half.

"And when the match is over we have a quick inquest into it. If they have done well there's a word of praise — if they have not they get a rocket.

"We don't go too deeply into things straight after the game. For feelings are often still running a bit high and people don't always think clearly, including myself.

"We leave the real deep, searching inquest until Monday morning when everyone has cooled down and we can look at things objectively.



"I'm always in demand immediately after matches.

"After I have finished with the players I have to deal with the media. Newspaper reporters want quotes from me for the Sunday and Monday editions and whatever I am doing I always find time to talk to them.

"They are very important to the game and I always get a little sad when I see managers refusing to talk to them.

"Apart from the Press I usually do TV interviews if our game is being shown on the 'box'. The Radio boys want some time as well... and I do my best to make sure they get it.

"When all that has been done it is usually around 5.30 p.m. Then it is time to wander through to the board and visitors rooms to do more talking.

'Manager'

"I'll have a drink and talk over the game with the opposing manager — if he has not had to dash off to catch a train earlier.

"And there are other managers, scouts and such like from various clubs to chat to.

"I also discuss the game with my chairman, Sir Arthur South, and the other directors and there's always a lot to talk about with them.

"This takes the time to well past 6 p.m. before my 'official' duties are over.

"After that I try to unwind and relax over a drink with the close friends that are still around.

"But the work is still not necessarily over. For those friends include a couple of journalists, still on the look-out for stories, football people wanting to talk business and directors with the same thing in mind.

"Whatever the result a couple of hours earlier the atmosphere is now warm and friendly and stays that way until I leave the ground at around 7.30 p.m. to go home.

"All I want to do then is to freshen up, change and take Janet out for a meal. But it's a good bet the phone will ring while I'm there and I'm faced with more questions to answer.

"I seldom sit indoors on Saturday nights. The demands of the job means that Janet sees very little of me all through the week, so she deserves to be taken out to dine.

"Even then football cannot be forgotten. People in the restaurant have invariably been at the match in the afternoon and want to talk about it.

"I happen to think that the man who pays his money at the turnstile is also very important and am always willing to listen to his point of view — even if I don't agree with it.

"While we are out I rely on Kevin to record Match of the Day on our video machine so when we get home, whatever the time, I can sit down and enjoy all the action.

"It's usually around two or three a.m. before I get to bed and as I'm still turning incidents from the match over and over in my mind I usually find it difficult to sleep.

"So from the time I have woken up on Saturday morning that makes something like an 18 hour day, completely dominated by, and devoted to, football.

"During the week I'm at Carrow Road by 9 a.m. to sort through the post and deal with any urgent calls before driving up to the training ground an hour or so later.

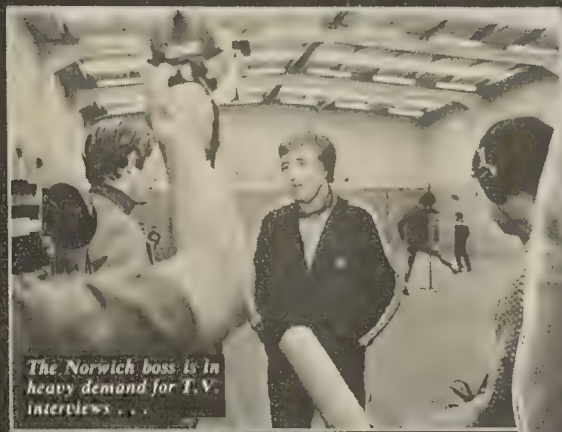
"We train until around mid-day, when I go back to my office for more administrative work.



Bond put his players in a relaxed frame of mind before kick-off.



The end product. Match day at Carrow Road.



The Norwich boss is in heavy demand for T.V. interviews...



...and quotes for newspaper reporters.

"A couple of nights a week there are usually matches on that I want to go and watch. If these are in the Midlands or London — as they often are — it means setting off at about 3p.m. and getting back home 12 hours later.

"If there are no matches I stay at the ground until 5.30 — making phone calls to make sure I keep in touch with everything.

"Whatever happens I'm seldom at home more than two evenings a week. So those of you who think football managers are well paid for their endeavours will, I'm sure, agree that we work hard for our money."

We certainly do, John. That's the sort of work load that would have trade union militants screaming blue murder.

And we greatly appreciate that you could still find the time to let us share a day in your life.

Thanks a lot and Merry Christmas!

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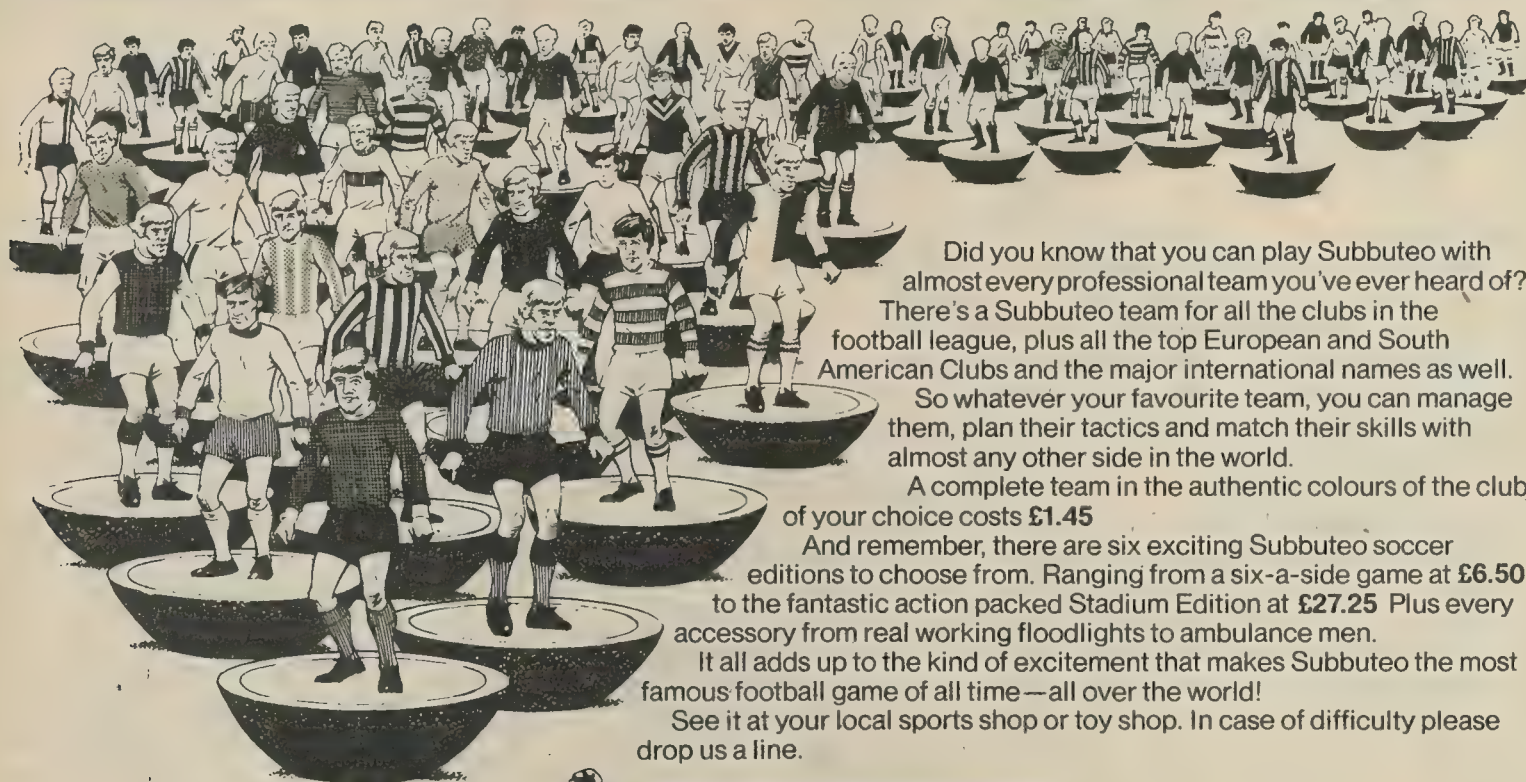
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MY SOCCER
WORLD
**Gordon
McQueen**



IF THERE is such a thing as the spirit of Christmas, he certainly hasn't been kind to Manchester United this year.

We kick-off our festive programme at home to Nottingham Forest on Saturday (December 22nd), travel to Liverpool on Boxing Day, entertain Arsenal on Saturday, December 29th and then Bolton on New Year's Day.

So there's no way I can indulge in too much turkey and Christmas pudding next Tuesday.

Christmas never has been much fun for footballers. In fact it's usually one of the most vital periods of the season for those clubs already involved in Championship, promotion or possible relegation issues.

This Christmas is especially important to a United team looking more than capable of winning the title for the first time since 1966-67.

Last season we had a disastrous Christmas, losing to Bolton, Liverpool and West Brom, conceding 11 goals in the process.

United were going through a shaky spell this time last year, just as Forest are at the moment.

They've had several bad results over the past few weeks which cast doubts about the City Ground futures of Brian Clough and Peter Taylor.

I can't really see them leaving the club, or the team slipping into serious trouble.

All-action

We drew 1-1 with Forest in an exciting, all-action game at Old Trafford last season. Jimmy Greenhoff scored our goal.

I'm glad to report that Jimmy is on his way back after his long lay-off due to injury. He's been regaining match fitness via the third team and reserves and could be pressing for a return to the first team by the end of January.

He won't be back in time to face Liverpool, though. At the time of writing they hadn't lost at Anfield for something like 37 League games, but that record won't frighten United.

Clubs are afraid of going to Anfield. They adopt the attitude of wait and hope. Wait for Liverpool to come at them . . . and hope to hold out for a point.

United will attack . . . have a go at them, just as we did in the F.A. Cup Semi-Final last season when we beat them after a replay.

You've got to be adventurous against Liverpool. Hold back and you're dead.

They were all over us at Anfield last year and won easily. Liverpool will find a stronger Manchester United this time. The main reason for our improvement? We've come of age . . . we're a year older and wiser. There's no substitute for

'All go at Anfield'

experience in this game.

We were also beaten by Arsenal at Old Trafford last season. And we lost to them in the F.A. Cup Final, of course.

I know we played a very boring 0-0 draw at Highbury at the beginning of the season, but this will be the first chance most of our fans have had to relive the Wembley Final.

The Gunners are never anyone's fall guys, but the way United have been playing lately, especially at home, I must take us to gain some revenge with a victory.

There'll be another full house at Old Trafford on New Year's Day when our not so distant Lancashire neighbours Bolton are the visitors.

Managed by former United star Ian Greaves, Bolton were happy Wanderers against us last season, winning both games.

At the time they were a dour but very difficult side to beat. But just

now everything seems to be going against them.

Frank Worthington has left for Birmingham, they've suffered injuries to several key players and find themselves struggling at the foot of the table.

Although I'm expecting United to start the New Year right with a win, we certainly won't be underestimating our opponents.

As a Scot I look forward to the New Year, more so than Christmas, but as a footballer don't really get the opportunity to celebrate the occasion.

I will have a special reason for putting champagne on ice this time, though. My wife Yvonne is expecting our first baby about now.

The new arrival will also mean a much busier McQueen household this Christmas. You see, Yvonne's mum and dad are coming over to stay, so are my parents.

But we couldn't wish for a better present could we? I'll ensure there's a photo of the happy family in my column.

Just enough space left to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and prosperous and successful 1980.

And here's a resolution for all fans . . . stay out of trouble. Crowd violence seems to be decreasing this season, especially in the North. **KEEP IT UP!**



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POINT ZERO FOR HEYNCKES

ONE of my favourite European teams of the 70's has been Borussia Mönchengladbach. They were built by Hennes Weisweiler and his good work was carried on by Udo Lattek.

Borussia and Bayern Munich have dominated West German soccer for the past decade and while BMG have lost many great players, they are still a force to be reckoned with.

The man in charge of BMG now is Jupp Heynckes, their former winger who won 39 full caps, scored 200 Bundesliga goals and, with Borussia, won four Championships, one German Cup and U.E.F.A. Cup winners' medal.

At 34, he is the youngest trainer in the Bundesliga and says: "I know my job is not easy, but I'm not afraid of the

task before me.

"My attitude is that I started at Point Zero and progress will be slow."

Perhaps, but Borussia pulled off one of the best results



in the European competitions in November when they beat Inter Milan 3-2 after extra-time in Italy.

In 1971/72, BMG knocked Inter for seven, but U.E.F.A. ruled that European Cup tie must be replayed owing to hooliganism; Inter drew 0-0 and were reprieved. Heynckes played in that game and revenge was very sweet.

Heynckes continued: "So many great players have gone. Simonsen, Vogts, Jensen, Bonhof, Stielike, Netzer... it is a new era for the club.

"I doubt if we'll ever have such a super team again because there are less personality players around now.

"My job is 70 per cent psychologist and 30 per cent experience. I hope I can pass this over to the younger players."

● Picture shows Heynckes with Harald Nickel after the victory in Milan.

WORLD WIDE



compiled by
CHRIS DAVIES

TICKETS SOLD FOR STADIUM NOT YET BUILT!

ARGENTINIAN club Boca Juniors are in severe financial difficulties, even though they were South American Champions in 1977 and 1978.

Fifteen squad members are up for sale, and Boca have now run into problems with the Argentine government over the construction of a new super sports complex on the outskirts of Buenos Aires.

Back in 1964, the government handed over about 100 acres of land to Boca on condition that the club build a 140,000-capacity stadium; training pitches; Olympic-size swimming pools; gymnasium; skating rink; tennis courts; a basketball pavilion; running tracks; concert hall; children's games area; and a residence for competing athletes.

The government's decree gave Boca two years to begin work and ten years to finish the project, but Boca's economic problems have prevented them from doing anything but the most basic groundwork (but hasn't stopped them selling non-existent seats in the non-existent stadium to unsuspecting fans)!

The authorities have now given Boca three years to complete their part of the bargain and if the club doesn't produce the facilities in time the land will be repossessed by the government.

'NO PARIS PUBLIC' says Platini



But the odds are that Monaco will win and Marseille will drop a point.

"Monaco have almost unlimited financial backing from Prince Rainier, so they can afford to pay big fees and high wages. Most French clubs receive money from their local authority, but none can compare with Monaco."

France failed to qualify for the Finals of the European Championship in June. Platini rates Holland, Italy and England as the three best teams in Europe.

"Holland, because they have twice reached the World Cup Final and have some extra-ordinarily gifted players; Italy, because of the way they played in Argentina and have won consistently since; England, because of their good results under Ron Greenwood."

Platini is doing well with Les Verts, who also added Johnny Rep to their line-up this season. They are challenging for the title and Platini has enjoyed their U.E.F.A. Cup run, not least the remarkable 8-0 thrashing of PSV.

"I had offers from abroad, but decided to stay in France. I'm sure Saint-Etienne can help me win a lot of medals during the 80's," he concluded.

THE French have given us so much in football. Jules Rimet — the World Cup. Henri Delaunay — the European Championship. France Football magazine — the European Footballer of the Year.

Yet Michel Platini, pin-up boy of France, who joined Saint-Etienne from Nancy last summer, says there is no such thing as a 'Paris public'.

"It doesn't really exist. Most of the people living in the capital are either foreigners or Frenchmen who have moved in from the provinces. Thus you find in Paris there are many supporters of clubs such as Rheims and Nantes.

"This, I think, is proved when these clubs play in Paris, for not only are the attendances doubled, but the majority of fans actually shout for the visiting team!

"Personally, I find that I don't notice supporters most of the time and this is probably true of most players.

"Otherwise, how can you explain the success of AS Monaco, who were Champions a couple of years ago, and the failure of Olympique Marseille?

"Monaco rarely draw more than 4,000 at home games, while Marseille can get as many as 30,000

PRESIDENT v PRESS

THERE's been yet another storm in the Barcelona tea-cup, following a local paper's allegations that false papers were used in the club's successful bid to have international winger Carrasco do his military service in Barcelona instead of distant Granada.

Barcelona president, Josep Lluís Núñez, banned the offending reporter from the stadium, and the journalists in Barcelona promptly staged demonstrations of solidarity with their colleague.

Núñez, in a bid to woo the fans away from the Press and on to his side, declared that entry to watch Barcelona's Cup-Winners' Cup match against humble Aris Bonnevoie of Luxembourg would be free of charge. Núñez's War against the Press stems from his public demands that the local Press be totally in favour of club "and against Real Madrid".

But the Press, after 40 years of censorship under the Franco regime, are now prepared to defend their freedom of speech till the last.

WORLD CUP PROBLEMS

SPAIN's preparations for the 1982 World Cup continue to run into problems. Even though Raimundo Saporta has agreed to stay on as president of the Organising Committee, the Socialist Party is still determined to muscle in on the proceedings and several local authorities where they are in charge are being somewhat less than co-operative.

To make matters worse, there's a large question mark over the naming of Malaga as one of the 14 venues.

A F.I.F.A. inspection team declared the Rosaleda Stadium unsuitable last year, but the Spaniards finally bowed to pressure from the Costa del Sol hoteliers and included the city on their final list.

F.I.F.A., however, are adamant that the facilities at La Rosaleda don't begin to measure up to World Cup standards and that a new stadium is needed if Malaga is to stay on the list.

I'll keep you in touch . . .

MARTINA Rummenigge, wife of Bayern Munich's international star recently had a baby and decided to slim by having only soup for lunch and a tomato in the evening on days when Karl-Heinz was away from home. Because of international duty and U.E.F.A. Cup-ties, Karl-Heinz was at home only five days out of 23 and during that period she lost almost 30 lbs.



News flashes

AFTER playing for Dinamo Bucharest against Eintracht Frankfurt, Rumanian international defender Alexander Sarmareanu, with 27 full caps, asked for political asylum in West Germany. He expects to be suspended for one year but at 27 hopes to find a club and qualify as a coach.

AUSTRIAN League football is in the doldrums. The popular Vienna club SC Rapid (record Champions) attracted only 2,000 for their local derby with Admira, while League leaders Grazer AK, a very ordinary team, were beaten the same day by Austria Salzburg for whom the star was the 38-years-old veteran Karl Kodat who engineered the 3-1 win.

FRANZ Hasil, the former Austrian international who helped Feyenoord beat Celtic in the 1970 European Cup Final, is the new manager-coach of FK Austria Klagenfurt. During the winter break he will watch Ernst Happel working with Standard Liege to pick up ideas, for he has never taken a formal coaching course.

THE famous San Siro Stadium in Milan has been restored to its full capacity after extensive renovation — 81,557 fans can see matches there. The stadium is now called the Giuseppe Meazza Stadium after the Milanese who won two World Cup winners' medals in '30 and '34. He died last summer.

ONE reason why club officials in Italy are keen for the ban on foreign players to be lifted is the failure of their sides in Europe. This season was disastrous: only Juventus got beyond the Second Round. In fact, Juve's U.E.F.A. Cup victory in 1977 is the only one at that level by an Italian club without foreigners.

THE Soviet F.A. announced that 3,700,000 registered players were active in the 1979 season in the U.S.S.R., but

they cannot find 11 to do consistently well at international level. The U.S.S.R. finished bottom of their group in the European Championship, below Finland who have a total population of only 3½ million!

BORUSSIA Mönchengladbach took in just over £200,000 for their home U.E.F.A. Cup match with Inter-Milan which is a record for the Bokelberg Stadium. The players each received a £1,500 spectator bonus plus an undisclosed sum for winning the tie overall.

22-YEAR-OLD Nikolai Vassiljev scored five goals for Torpedo Moscow in the 6-2 home win over Pachtakor Tashkent. This was only the fourth time since the U.S.S.R. League began in 1936 that a player had scored five. The first was Schelagin of the now defunct Spartak Leningrad in 1938, and the most recent was Gavashvili of Dynamo Tbilisi in 1968.

JUVENTUS and Italy goalkeeper Dino Zoff (below) is chasing a record of successive appearances in the Italian League. Another Juve player, Alfredo Fonti, holds the record at present with 229 games back in the 30's. Zoff should overtake that record early in the New Year.



THE BRAZILIAN WHO NEARLY JOINED BIRMINGHAM

DIRCEU

(Atletico Madrid & Brazil)



SHOOT: You ended the World Cup in Argentina as Brazil's most outstanding player, went to Mexico and "disappeared" into obscurity. Do you think you gained nothing there, but lost time and a lot of that image?

DIRCEU: I think my best spell ever with Brazilian football happened during the World Cup, so perhaps it would appear to have been more sensible for me to stay in Brazil. However, one never knows what tomorrow will bring and I accepted the Mexican challenge. I went there because I knew Mexicans love Brazilians and vice-versa; since the 1970 World Cup we are almost one country and one people. I also thought they had reasonably good football, although I had never seen a Mexican team. It turned out that they do have some good players, but don't use their skills and turn rather to violence. Professionally it certainly didn't add much to my career and was a setback. I was forgotten by the football world and now I must work hard again.

SHOOT: Before you went to Mexico 17 months ago, there were rumours that you would sign for a Spanish club. Is this, then, a "dream-come-true"?

DIRCEU: Yes, I suppose so. I had a few offers to come to Spain at the time and everything seemed certain I would join Barcelona, but then there were some last-minute hitches; as I had given my word to América of Mexico that they would be the first in the list or they would have priority to sign me, I had to keep my word and accepted to go to Mexico. However, my aim was to reach Spain eventually and I am glad I have achieved it.

SHOOT: You were also approached by Birmingham; why didn't the transactions succeed?

DIRCEU: When Birmingham phoned me in Rio asking whether I would like to play in England, I told them it would be a marvellous experience for me and would most certainly accept it. Negotiations went on, we even agreed on the basis of my contract and I was excited with the prospects of being the first Brazilian player in the English League. But a few days later, they called me back saying Birmingham had lost 6-3 and that they needed to sign a defensive player, not a midfielder. With that, unfortunately, I stayed in Brazil and eventually went to Mexico. I would much rather have gone to England than to Mexico, though, because after all the English were the developers of football as we know it today, and playing in the English League would keep me in the world's eyes.

SHOOT: European football is more violent and less technical than Brazilian football. Does that worry you?

DIRCEU: Brazilian football is too technical, Mexican football just requires incredibly good physical condition from the player and European football is the sum of both: you must be skilful and have a good physical condition. I may lack the physical strength of the European player, but I make that up by being able to run a lot, knowing exactly what I want and where to place myself and, although not violent.

SHOOT: If you had received the same offer from a Spanish and an English club at exactly the same time, which one would you have accepted?

DIRCEU: I think the language would have been the decisive factor in the event of receiving an offer from Spain and England simultaneously. I speak very little English so I suppose Spain would, just for that reason, be my choice. Anyway, I would love to have the opportunity to live in England and have a closer contact with the English people. I always remember when I played with Brazil at Wembley last year — it was a typical rainy day . . . and we all enjoyed it a great deal. In fact, while in the U.S.A. I went to the Detroit-Cosmos match and met my good friend Trevor Francis. We had a long chat and he promised me he would try to find a club in England that might be interested in signing me . . . but I haven't had a reply from him since.

DODDS' LIVERPOOL CONNECTION



KEVIN Keegan, Kenny Dalglish and Ray Clemence are three good reasons that spell out the fact Liverpool rarely make a mistake in the transfer market.

They buy shrewdly, taking everything into consideration. Last season they had a good look at Dundee United's fearless striker Davie Dodds. He was put under their microscope and, by all accounts, they were impressed.

There was talk of a bid in the region of £150,000, but United were in no mood to sell the man they saw as taking over the mantle left by former spearhead Andy Gray.

It is easy to compare Dodds with Gray. They are similar in a lot of things although Dodds is still rough round the edges and far from being the finished article.

They are big and courageous. Dodds is good in the air, Gray is too. He takes knocks without grumbling... just like the Wolves striker.

But, unlike Gray, it seems that Dodds is in danger of not living up to his potential. For some inexplicable reason he hasn't captured the form of last season that had the former European Champions ready to lay out a fair amount of cash.

Dodds first came to prominence

playing for Scottish school-boys against England in an international encounter at Fir Park, home of Motherwell.

The fresh-faced Dodds lined up alongside Jim Melrose, later to sign for Partick Thistle, with Celtic's John McCluskey, playing wide on the left.

Kevin Mabbutt, of Bristol City, was one of the boys destined for greater things in the English line-up.

Scotland won 3-1 at the end of an entertaining afternoon, but Dodds was the second most impressive player on the field, just a shade behind McCluskey, who had a splendid game.

He charged around all afternoon, putting pressure on everyone in the English defence. It was a tremendous show by the youngster and it was plain to see if that energy could be harnessed, then some club would be on a winner.

At the time Dodds was already promised to United and a lot of English scouts went home unhappy. He eventually made his first team debut and started to knock in the goals.

The Tannadice club settled back, knowing they were on a winner.

Firing line

This season though, things have gone wrong. United paid out £100,000 for Willie Pettigrew and pushed him into their firing line.

Manager Jim McLean also fixed up another striker, Jim Docherty from Chelsea, and it now looks as though Dodds is surplus to their requirements.

The ultimate answer to the problem obviously lies with Dodds — a player of whom a centre-half once said: "When you play against that lad it is like wrestling with an octopus. It's not easy!"

Possibly a move from Tannadice will be just the tonic Dodds needs to revitalise his form, and Liverpool might give him the opportunity to show he can go all the way to the top.

Liverpool's record of signing promising players and making them better is impressive.

Frank McGarvey, the former St Mirren winger, is still in the Anfield club's reserve side — awaiting his opportunity.

GORDON STRACHAN

ALEX McLEISH

Aberdeen's 'Little and Large' are having the last laugh

THEY are becoming known as the 'Little and Large' of Scottish soccer, but their powerful brand of play means that rivals never see the funny side.

LITTLE... that's Aberdeen's midfield general Gordon Strachan, whose form this season has been outstanding.

AND LARGE... that's his mid-field partner Alex McLeish, the tall and lanky red-haired teenager who admits even he is surprised about his rapid rise to stardom.

Strachan's main problem in the past has been his volatile, explosive temperament. He would get involved too often in the physical side of the game and let his exceptional talents be clouded.

Award

"I knew I had to knock it out of my system," says Gordon. "I had been voted 'Reserve Player of the Year' twice in succession while I was with Dundee, so it seemed that most people thought I had ability."

"The award was given by rival managers and both honours were treasured, but I still wasn't making the impact that you might expect in the first team."

Strachan even recalls a reserve match for Dundee against City rivals United. "The Tannadice men had twins in their team that day," says Strachan. "I was whacked from behind by one of them, but when I turned round they were both standing beside me."

How did Strachan spot the culprit? He went for both players and consequently was ordered off. He says: "I just hope those days are well in the past. I don't want to get

involved in anything like that again."

It was no surprise when Jock Stein pulled Strachan into his Under-21 squad recently as an over-age player.

Stein, in fact, had twice tried to sign the player from Dundee for Celtic, but failed.

Strachan, instead, went for £70,000 plus a player to Aberdeen and under the influence of Billy McNeill, ironically to take over from Stein at Parkhead, he started to put his play together.

No one doubted the boy's talent or his courage, but for several reasons he failed to capture consistency in his play. "I was living in an hotel for a fairly lengthy spell," says Strachan, "and that didn't help me settle in."

Now Strachan has moved into his own house and things have clicked for him on a large scale this season. His play in the middle of the park has been wonderful as he collects the balls from his defence and sprays them around with uncanny accuracy.

McLeish is an entirely different player, as you might expect. His main strength is his ball-winning ability and boundless energy.

"I didn't think I would be involved in first team football so early in my career," says the level-headed youngster. "It's really marvellous to be included in the boss's plans."

Alex Ferguson, the Pittodrie manager, has done a great job in taking over the hot seat from the popular Billy McNeill. He has kept the attacking instinct in the side and they are a team the neutrals will turn out to see.

'Little and Large' are certainly having the last laugh...

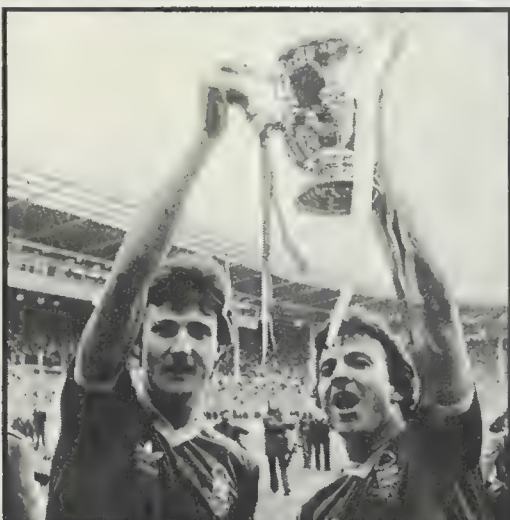
HIGHLIGHTS OF 1979



JANUARY: Malcolm Allison returns to Man. City after a spell at Plymouth, who receive £35,000 compensation.



FEBRUARY: Phil Parkes (above) becomes Britain's costliest 'keeper when he joins West Ham for £527,000, while Trevor Francis (right) becomes Britain's first £1m player.



MARCH: Nottingham Forest become the first team to retain the League Cup when they beat Southampton 3-2 at Wembley.



APRIL: Alan Ball becomes the first player to make 100 League appearances for four different clubs.



MAY: Nottingham Forest (above) win the European Cup. Arsenal (right, light shirts) beat Manchester United in the F.A. Cup Final. Rangers (below, left) win the Scottish Cup Final against Hibs at Hampden Park.



JUNE: Despite losing 4-3 to Austria in Vienna, England (dark shirts) enjoyed a good summer tour.

CONTINUED ON P.62

SHOOT SOCCER CALENDAR 1980





KEVIN KEEGAN
(England)

JANUARY

S 6 13 20 27
M 7 14 21 28
Tu 1 8 15 22 29
W 2 9 16 23 30
Th 3 10 17 24 31
F 4 11 18 25
S 5 12 19 26

FEBRUARY

S 3 10 17 24
M 4 11 18 25
Tu 5 12 19 26
W 6 13 20 27
Th 7 14 21 28
F 1 8 15 22 29
S 2 9 16 23

MARCH

S 2 9 16 23 30
M 3 10 17 24 31
Tu 4 11 18 25
W 5 12 19 26
Th 6 13 20 27
F 7 14 21 28
S 1 8 15 22 29

APRIL

S 6 13 20 27
M 7 14 21 28
Tu 1 8 15 22 29
W 2 9 16 23 30
Th 3 10 17 24
F 4 11 18 25
S 5 12 19 26

MAY

S 4 11 18 25
M 5 12 19 26
Tu 6 13 20 27
W 7 14 21 28
Th 1 8 15 22 29
F 2 9 16 23 30
S 3 10 17 24 31

JUNE

S 1 8 15 22 29
M 2 9 16 23 30
Tu 3 10 17 24
W 4 11 18 25
Th 5 12 19 26
F 6 13 20 27
S 7 14 21 28

JULY

S 6 13 20 27
M 7 14 21 28
Tu 1 8 15 22 29
W 2 9 16 23 30
Th 3 10 17 24 31
F 4 11 18 25
S 5 12 19 26

AUGUST

S 3 10 17 24 31
M 4 11 18 25
Tu 5 12 19 26
W 6 13 20 27
Th 7 14 21 28
F 1 8 15 22 29
S 2 9 16 23 30

SEPTEMBER

S 7 14 21 28
M 1 8 15 22 29
Tu 2 9 16 23 30
W 3 10 17 24
Th 4 11 18 25
F 5 12 19 26
S 6 13 20 27

OCTOBER

S 5 12 19 26
M 6 13 20 27
Tu 7 14 21 28
W 1 8 15 22 29
Th 2 9 16 23 30
F 3 10 17 24 31
S 4 11 18 25

NOVEMBER

S 2 9 16 23 30
M 3 10 17 24
Tu 4 11 18 25
W 5 12 19 26
Th 6 13 20 27
F 7 14 21 28
S 1 8 15 22 29

DECEMBER

S 7 14 21 28
M 1 8 15 22 29
Tu 2 9 16 23 30
W 3 10 17 24 31
Th 4 11 18 25
F 5 12 19 26
S 6 13 20 27

HIGHLIGHTS OF 1979

CONTINUED



JULY: England winger Peter Barnes joins West Bromwich Albion from Manchester City for £650,000.



AUGUST: Liverpool start the new season with a 3-1 Charity Shield victory over Arsenal at Wembley.



OCTOBER: Celtic beat Partizani Tirana in the First Round of the European Cup (left) but Wales crash 5-1 to West Germany, a result which ended their interests in the European Championships (above).



NOVEMBER: Tony Woodcock (left) joins the growing band of exiles when he signs for West German club Cologne. George Best (above) makes a shock comeback with Hibernian. Ron Greenwood (right) confirmed as England boss until the 1982 World Cup Finals.



SEPTEMBER: Andy Gray smashes all existing transfer records when he joins Wolves from Aston Villa for £1.5m. The Scottish striker has soon made his mark at Molineux.



DECEMBER: Coventry striker Mick Ferguson scores four against Ipswich.

SEND YOUR QUESTIONS TO *Ask the Expert*

SHOOT!, IPC Magazines Ltd.,
King's Reach Tower,
Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS.

Millwall Record

I know Nottingham Forest have recently lost their fine unbeaten home Football League run, but which club actually holds the record?

**P. DIXON,
SAUDI ARABIA**

● Although they were edging-up close, not even Cloughie's lads could quite better the feat of Millwall.

They went 59 home League games without defeat — starting against Torquay, in the Fourth Division, on 24th August, 1964; and ending when Plymouth beat them in a Second Division game on 14th January, 1967.

All-English

Has the Final of any post-War major European competition been played between two British clubs?

**DEREK LAUDER,
GLASGOW**

● Not just British, Derek, but I'm sorry to say to a Glaswegian! two English clubs.

This was the 1971-72 U.E.F.A. Cup — in which, in the two-legged Final, Spurs beat Wolves 3-2 on aggregate.

The Londoners won 2-1 away in the first-leg, and successfully held on 1-1 at home.

Top Scorers

Can you tell me the highest number of goals scored by a team in a single game in each of the four English Divisions?

**EMAD ALI HASSAN,
IRAQ**

● Twelve is the best in the First Division, Emad — West Bromwich 12, Darwen 0 (1892); Nottingham Forest 12, Leicester Fosse 0 (1909); and Aston Villa 12, Accrington 2 (1892).

In the Second, it's 13 — Newcastle 13, Newport 0 (1946).

In the Third, it's nine — Tranmere 9, Accrington 0 (1959); Brentford 9, Wrexham 0 (1963); and Brighton 9, Southend 1 (1965).

In the Fourth, it's 11 — Oldham 11, Southport 0 (1962).

A couple of clubs hit 13 in the old Third Division (North) — Stockport 13, Halifax 0 (1934); and Tranmere 13, Oldham 4 (1935).

And one scored 12 in the old Third Division (South) — Luton 12, Bristol Rovers 0 (1936).

Old Programmes

Which was the first match for which an official programme was printed?

**CHRISTOPHER O'NEILL,
GLASGOW**

● I haven't a clue, Christopher, and I doubt if anyone else has now!

But I can tell you the oldest League programme still in existence — and evidence suggests that none were officially printed much, if at all, before then.

This particular one, now somewhat tattered and faded, was sold at Preston

North End's home First Division game against Derby County on 2nd September, 1893.

Two of England's greatest forwards of the time — the legendary Steve Bloomer and John Goodall — were in the visiting Derby side, though neither was able to find the net in a 0-0 draw.

This programme, by the way, was just a drab single sheet listing the players' names — a very far cry from the sophisticated, multi-coloured, many-paged match magazines of today.

Duncan McKenzie

I know the talented Duncan McKenzie has travelled around, but could you please list all his clubs and goals?

**YVONNE SMITH,
BRADFORD**

● Well, Yvonne, he kicked-off with 41 goals in 111 League games for Nottingham Forest; with seven goals in six games for Mansfield (on loan).

After that, it was 27 goals in 66 games for Leeds; 16 in 30 games for Anderlecht in the Belgian League; and 14 in 48 games for Everton.

Then it was four goals in 15 games for Chelsea before moving on to Blackburn last March.

There, up to the start of this season, Duncan had scored another couple of goals in 13 games.

SHORT PASSES

● The hottest day on which a full programme of Football League matches has been played was Saturday, 1st September, 1906 — when most parts of England touched 90 degrees Fahrenheit.
(**STU BARBOUR, Canada**)

● David Johnson (while an Ipswich player) won three full caps for England, Jimmy Case has yet to play in a full international.
(**KAJOKSONEN, Finland**)

● Ray Wilkins made his full England debut in the 3-2 win over Italy, in the U.S. Bi-Centennial Tournament, in New York on 28th May, 1976.
(**CINDY MURPHY, Co. Down**)

● 40 clubs have won the F.A. Cup at least once — the record being held by Aston Villa with seven triumphs.
(**DARREN ATKIN, Norway**)

● Stan Matthews was knighted on 1st January, 1965 — just over a month before he played his last First Division game at the age of 50 years and five days.
(**THOMAS MULVANEY, Coventry**)

United Kingdom readers
receive £2 for every
letter published.

Overseas readers win a special
SHOOT T-shirt instead of
money. When writing, readers
should state their size: small,
medium or large.

FROM a free transfer at Leeds to a place in the Scotland team. That could be the fairytale outcome for Bristol City's highly-rated goalkeeper John Shaw.

"It's a nice feeling to actually be thought of as being good enough to take part in the international scene," says the 25-year-old Stirling-born player. "I only hope that it happens after all the talk that has gone on about it."

"But I'm enjoying the publicity and it's helped my game. It seems to have given me an extra boost to my confidence which may have been lacking in the past. I'm definitely playing better now."

John joined Leeds straight from school as a 15-year-old, but in a



SHAW'S OBJECTIVE— SCOTLAND

five-year stay at Elland Road never made the breakthrough.

"I only played in two halves of two U.E.F.A. Cup matches," he says. "In the first we were 3-0 down at half-time and Don Revie brought me off. In the second we played Hibernian and a minute before the interval, with no score I broke two fingers and had to leave the field. I couldn't carry on."

"Glan Letheran, who is at Swansea now, came on to replace me and he had a stormer. I think Don Revie felt that I wouldn't be part of his plans when he had someone who had possibly more potential than me. Letheran was only the youth team 'keeper at the time and he was younger."

"Bristol City stepped in and I jumped at the chance because they looked the best proposition. The Ashton Gate club may have been in the Second Division when the offer came, but I felt they were always in with a chance of promotion to the top flight."

"Luckily the club went up two years after I joined them and, even better than that, I won a place in the side."

"I'm glad I left Leeds because it's given me the opportunity to make a name for myself. I don't think I would have had that chance at Elland Road."

John, now in his 11th season, finally made his League debut against Birmingham City in October, 1976.

"To be quite honest I felt it was something that was long overdue. I'd been playing for eight years and I was still waiting to open my League account. It was very nice

when it came and I think I've grabbed the chance with both hands. I've made around 150 first team appearances since then."

"I felt sure I was good enough to play in any Division, and it's even nicer to be playing in the First."

With Scotland having been knocked out of the European Championship, John feels that boss Jock Stein will be on the look out for new talent to re-ignite Scotland's tarnished image, and says: "The goalkeeping spot is really open to offers."

"Alan Rough has not enjoyed the best of times. The Press seem to have been on his back all along. Every time he's let a goal in, they've said that he's been at fault. Everton's George Wood seems to have suffered a similar fate."

Even so, John is well aware of the competition he faces. "Jake Findlay at Luton is having a marvellous season. He's been getting a lot of attention because The Hatters are near the top of the Second Division."

"There are goalkeepers in Scotland who are ready to stake their claim. Peter McCloy of Rangers is playing exceptionally well. So these people are going to come into the reckoning."

"If you're playing in Scotland, then you're going to be seen more often than if you're performing at Bristol, Plymouth or somewhere like that. So it's up to the Press to highlight how well you play."

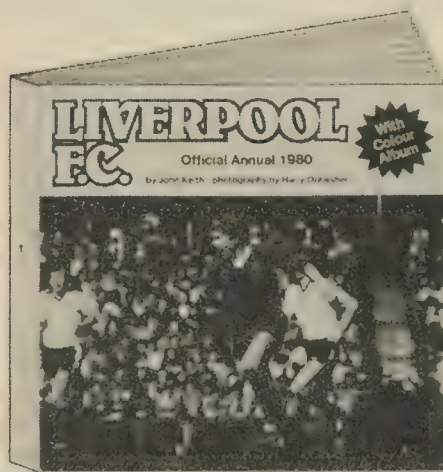
"If the papers haven't given you a good write up, then there's no way Jock Stein is going to travel to the West Country just to have a look at you."

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SHOOT 7

What do you know about the police?

C.I.D.

1. What does "C.I.D." stand for?

2. Is a chequered cap band the sign of a particular Police rank?

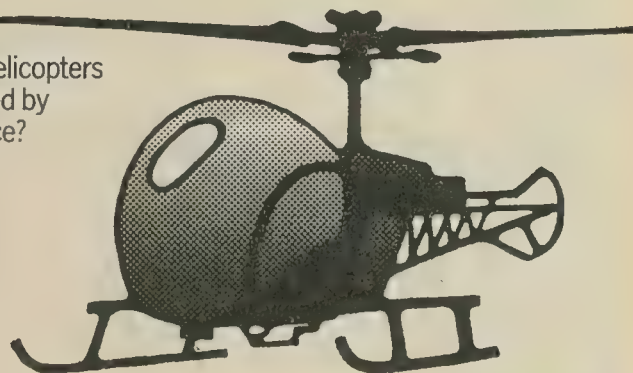


3. How many Police officers are there in England & Wales?

- a) Over 20,000
- b) Over 50,000
- c) Over 100,000



4. Are helicopters ever used by the Police?



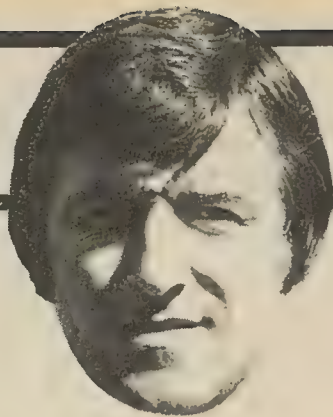
5. Which is the highest award for bravery given in the Police?



This is the twelfth in a series depicting the background, present-day work and development of Britain's Police Force. For further information about the Police write to:-

Police Quiz, (J56), Home Office,
Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AT.

- ANSWERS
- 1. Criminal Investigation Department
 - 2. No, all ranks in the Police wear chequered cap bands
 - 3. c
 - 4. Yes, they are hired from private firms
 - 5. The George Cross



I WANT to make my contribution to this hour of festive goodwill by paying tribute to a player who has made no headlines on the back pages of newspapers this season.

I refer to Ian Evans whose outstanding career was cruelly interrupted when he broke his right leg playing a Second Division game for Crystal Palace against Fulham at Selhurst Park in October, 1977.

The memory of his collision with George Best still haunts me. A 50-50 ball, both players determined to get to it first, and *crack*. Ian fell like a wounded stag.

That injury not only interrupted a promising international career in which he had been capped 13 times by Wales but threatened also to destroy his future as a professional footballer.

The end — in his mid-20's! It didn't bear thinking about. If ever there was a likely candidate for the title role in the new movie "Yesterday's Hero" it was Ian on that fateful October afternoon.

It is no secret that many people feared Ian would never kick a football again. We always remained optimistic at Palace.

Ian could easily have been excused dark moments of depression, but to suggest that mood is not to know the man.

Committed

A broken career? Ian never gave it a second thought. From the moment he was carried off the pitch to warm applause from Palace and Fulham fans alike, he has committed himself totally to the task, often agonising, of making a full recovery.

Lesser men than Ian might have thrown in the towel. He suffered a series of setbacks, going first to one specialist, then another. For two solid years, summer and winter, he worked to get fit. Part of his time was spent doing weight training and other exercises at the RAF Rehabilitation Centre, Headley Down, Leatherhead.

His visits there were increased this year. Long, lonely hours wondering if he would ever make it. His broken leg had to be re-set three times in two years.

Sixteen months after he sustained the injury he was told to keep off the leg, not to give it any stress. It was a crucial moment and he came through it on the road to full recovery.

The doctors even used him as a guinea pig. He had an American invention implanted in his leg. The gadget gave off small electric impulses designed to stimulate blood circulation.

To the best of my knowledge he is the first professional footballer in this country to receive such treatment.

Skillful treatment from doctors,

'IAN EVANS— TOMORROW'S HERO'



"The collision between Ian and George Best still haunts me."

allied to tender care at home from his wife Jane, and inspiration from their baby boy Tom, all contributed to Ian's miracle recovery.

I cannot express the delight I felt in watching him back in training. If ever a footballer deserved to collect a medal, without kicking a football it is Ian Evans. A badge of courage.

He improved with every game after making his comeback in the reserves a few weeks ago, and I felt I had to acknowledge his progress in Palace's programme for the game against Arsenal on November 10th. I wrote: "Ian Evans continues to make highly satisfactory progress in the reserve side. He has now played some nine games and is going from strength to strength and he must be given full marks for the character he has shown in doing so well after what was, unfortunately, a very serious injury."

It is unwise for a manager to make rash statements about the progress of players, so I shall refrain from discussing Ian's first team future.

But I will say this — I hold no

fears about his ability to play the game as well as he did before receiving the injury.

And while I'm in the mood to share out a few bouquets, a word about John Burridge, Palace's goalkeeper.



"John Burridge — an England candidate? He really wants that yellow jersey."

I was delighted when John was selected to play for an England XI against Sunderland to mark the Roker's centenary celebrations in November.

John makes no secret of the fact that he wants the yellow jersey of England as his own. Knowing the man, now he has experienced the thrill of playing for an England side, he will endeavour even harder to make the place his own.

John's another courageous player, whose future in the game was once under threat but has blossomed since his arrival at Crystal Palace.

A Merry Christmas all. Watch as much football as you can in 1980 because it promises to be another exciting chapter in the continued progress of English football.

But above all — enjoy the game.

Bob Farnable



On December 30th, César Luis Menotti will walk into the headquarters of the Argentine F.A. with two pieces of paper tucked away in his brief case. Their contents will spark off fierce and passionate controversy in the best of Argentine traditions, and the national team-manager will immediately be besieged by hordes of radio, Press and TV reporters demanding reasons for his decisions.

The two pieces of paper are lists of players. One list for the youth team. And another is the basis for the squad that will defend Argentina's World title in Spain in 1982. There'll be 30 names on each, and the players named cannot be transferred outside Argentina until after the next World Cup. Menotti is once again treading the path towards World Cup glory and, as he found last time round, it's a treacherous, precarious path with obstacles at every turn.

If the glory and fervour of that historic triumph in 1978 has had time to fade, Menotti has certainly helped to accelerate the process by consigning his World Champion team to the scrapbooks.

Of the squad that beat Holland 3-1 in that memorable Final, only the captain, Daniel Passarella has regularly been in action in the blue-and-white Argentina shirt since that day.

"That team is history," says Menotti. "My priority now is to build my squad to defend the title in 1982. The past is immaterial."

But Menotti's attitude isn't popular with the millions of soccer fans in Argentina, and a top reporter reflected the views of many when he wrote: "It seems a crime that only 18 months after the glory of the World Cup we're left only with memories and nostalgia of a World Champion team."

And Menotti, who became an "untouchable" national hero on that afternoon of June 25th, 1978, has already heard the first mutterings of discontent as he takes, for the second time, the laborious road towards building a squad capable of taking on the best in the world. "It'll be ten times harder this time," he admits, "because we'll be playing away from home and of course everyone wants to beat the World Champions."

But for the fans, 1982 still seems a long way off, and their critical mutterings began when Menotti decided to field an experimental side in the South American Championship, even though most people would have liked to see the World Cup heroes in action again. In the event, only Passarella was present in the 2-1 defeats by Bolivia and Brazil on foreign soil.

Another experimental side ran

MENOTTI



Diego Maradona (above, stripes) has brought a smile to the faces of most Argentinians, but apparently not to that of international manager Menotti (left)!

up the expected home win against the humble Bolivians, and after a disappointing 2-2 home draw with Brazil, Argentina made a discreet exit from the competition by finishing bottom of their qualifying group.

"Not worthy of World Champions!" lamented the Press. "If this is an experiment, we've wasted our time!"

The euphoria after Argentina's successful European tour last Spring rapidly disintegrated, and Menotti found himself answering searching questions about the team's future.

"I was only interested in the South American Championship to make a few experiments with players," he insisted. "OK, so Brazil beat us. Coutinho needed that to strengthen his position as manager of the National team — and the Brazilians needed it to recover a bit of their lost prestige.

"But that was their first team against our experimental side. I'm working towards 1982, and I'll be happy if just two or three world-class players emerge from my tests.

"In the meantime, I'm not bothered about results. I know people are complaining, but what more do I need to know about someone like Fillol, for example?

"I want to find out *who else* I've got, and that's why I've been selecting Vidallé in goal. Anyway, what alternative have I got? That 1978 side is dead. I mean, even if I'd wanted to pick the World Champion team against Brazil, look at the present situation.

"Kempes, Ardiles, Bertoni and Villa in Europe; Houseman hadn't trained for two months; Ortiz in hospital with brain damage; Luque buried under injuries, suspensions and personal problems; Tarantini wasn't playing; Olguin had been

playing as stopper instead of full-back with San Lorenzo and would have needed a long period of re-adaptation. That team doesn't exist any more."

Menotti's policy of trying as many players as possible is a repeat of his 1978 build-up, when he established no fewer than four "national" teams for a series of matches played in 1975 and 1976. His idea is obviously to repeat his successful formula, but many fans felt that, with the firm base of youngsters like Tarantini from the 1978 side, it wasn't necessary to start from scratch all over again.

And the fans weren't the only ones. Menotti's experiments meant that dozens of players were being whisked away from their clubs for mid-week training sessions or much longer training camps.

Then there was the European tour in the Spring; then the

Racing manager Sivori publicly blamed Menotti's constant demands on his players for "burning them out just when we got to the crucial games in the Metropolitan Championship." And Boca Juniors' manager Lorenzo threatened mutiny if any more of his players were selected.

Menotti stuck to his guns and picked another "ghost" team to represent Argentina on their second European tour in the autumn.

Who in Europe had ever heard of people like Vidallé, Ocaño, Van Tuyn, Bujedo, Gáspari, Hernández, Coscia, Fortunato and Diaz — the nine players who took the field along with World Cup stalwarts Passarella and Gallego against West Germany? Some cynics even claimed that it was Menotti's master plan to combat the export of players that has continually bugged Argentinian football.

In Spain, their traditional destination, the new regulations made it hard for clubs to sign foreigners who've represented their country, and rumour has it that every time he fielded a new player Menotti gleefully rubbed his hands and said "that's another one the Spaniards can't have!"

When the unknowns slumped 1-2 against West Germany and 2-4 against Yugoslavia the critics were merciless.

But, just as Menotti was beginning to be named a "sinner" a new triumph arrived which re-converted him to the status of "saint". Ignoring the "A" team's European tour, he'd spent a lot of time preparing a powerful youth team, and went with them to the World Championship Finals in Japan, where they comfortably swept the board and beat the U.S.S.R. 3-1 in the Final.

Back home, the streets of Buenos Aires were filled with celebrations on a scale that didn't fall far short of June, '78, levels and Menotti was once again the hero.

The overwhelming success of the youngsters contrasted so sharply with the failures of Menotti's experimental "adult" sides that he promptly hinted that Maradona, Barbas, Simón, Diaz and Rossi were more likely prospects for the 1982 team than most of their older rivals.

"People have said that 1979 has been a wasted year, but I don't agree. It has just been the starting point in a four-year process. 1980 will be another step forward, and I'm hoping to play against a wide variety of European teams, including England, Czechoslovakia and a couple of other countries who've qualified for the Finals of the European Championship.

"In spite of all the criticism, I've been able to make detailed studies of around 150 potential national team candidates this year, and the squad I'm going to name will be the results of not only their performances on the field but also their psychological attitudes and their ability to form a happy group.

"I know I'll be slated for some of my decisions, just as they did for picking Ardiles, Galván and Ortiz for my 1978 squad."

On December 30th, when Menotti hands in his lists, the critics, as ever, will be waiting to pounce.

-WALKING THE TIGHTROPE AGAIN

Brazil's Socrates (right) heads past Vidallé, an unpopular choice in the Argentinian goal. The picture below shows why Menotti's World Cup winners are out of favour.



South American Championship.

Diego Maradona's club, Argentinos Juniors, had made big financial sacrifices to keep the 19-year-old wonder boy in the country and build a good team around his unique talents. But at one stage their President Próspero Consoli was half-joking, with some reason, "Maradona? Oh, does he play for us? We haven't seen him for two months..."



PASSARELLA
-CAPTAIN

BERTONI
-IN SPAIN

OLGUIN
-POSITIONAL
SWITCH

TARANTINI
-NOT PLAYING

KEMPES
-IN SPAIN

FILLOL
-PROVEN STAR

GALLEGO
-PROVEN STAR

ARDILES
-IN ENGLAND

LUQUE
-INJURED

ORTIZ
-ILL

GALVAN
-TOO OLD

CRAIG JOHNSTON

Boro's multi-national star

CRAIG Johnston could represent more countries than the United Nations General Secretary.

The confusing upbringing of the 19-year-old Middlesbrough star leaves him qualified to play for six international teams.

He was born in South Africa of English and Welsh parents. But he had an Irish grandmother, a Scottish grandfather — and also lived in Australia long enough to be eligible for them.

The Aussies, in fact, have already offered him international status. And England manager Ron Greenwood would like him for his Under-21 side.

Johnston hasn't made up his mind which international jersey he'll wear yet — or maybe he's just as bewildered as everyone else by the situation.

He says: "I need a lot more skill before I'm ready for international football. And I don't intend to make up my mind until I'm good and ready."

Travelling

You would think young Johnston had done enough travelling already. But he's planning another move at the end of next season when his contract with Middlesbrough is up.

He says: "I've enjoyed myself at Middlesbrough but the British game isn't conducive to anyone learning the real skills."

"I'd like to have a couple of years abroad, where skill is placed above all else. It will make me a much better player."

"I'm thinking of going to Spain, Italy or Portugal — or maybe even South America."

"After two years abroad, I'll only be 23. Then I'll be ready to come back to a Football League club feeling more qualified to play international football — whoever it's for."

Johnston twice paid his own

fare from Australia to have trials at Ayresome Park.

The first time, he failed to impress manager Jack Charlton, but he returned to prove his point and earn a contract.

Ron Greenwood has already staked some sort of claim for the young midfielder man by playing him in an England XI against Sunderland in a centenary game.

But Johnston, a battling little midfielder player who also likes to move forward for a crack at goal, isn't being drawn on where his international future lies.

He says of his play: "My game is all about harrassing people and winning the ball for my team. I get it for those who can really play."

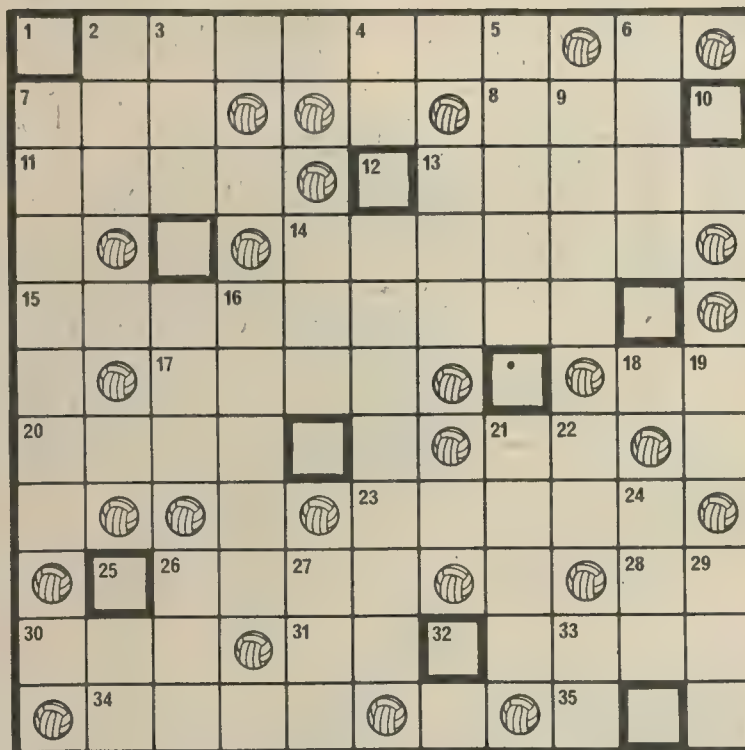
Middlesbrough fans, and manager John Neal, will tell you that Johnston isn't short on ability himself.

His form is one of the reasons why Middlesbrough have made such a bright start to the season. Now he hopes he can win something with the North-East club before he goes off on his travels again.

The only problem with him going away to Europe for a few years is that he might come back qualified to represent yet another country. He might become the first player able to stage a World Cup tournament on his own.

Go for the Double

After solving the clues in this specially compiled crossword, you can use the letters in the thick-edged squares to form the name of an Aston Villa defender. Answers on page 75.



ACROSS

- (1) Scottish Premier Division club from Pittodrie.
- (7) Movement of the head.
- (8) R-n-y Mar-h, former Man. City and England.
- (11) Mea--- La-e Ground, Notts County.
- (12) Newest or most recent.
- (14) Tyne----- Park, home of Hearts.
- (15) Q.P.R. winger. (6 & 4)
- (17) Alan ---, Stoke City defender.
- (18) Al---a play at the Recreation Ground.
- (20) Reply or respond.
- (21) Ray ---oding of Coventry City.
- (23) Tommy D-----ty, colour from the missing letters of this famous manager's name.
- (25) Ricardo ---, Spurs striker.
- (26) Bolton Wanderers, The -r-ters.
- (30) Crewe Alexandra, The R---waymen.
- (31) Jimmy ---, Leeds United's manager.
- (34) V---e- Parade, Bradford City.
- (35) Number of teams in English Division One whose names start with the letter "D".

DOWN

- (1) Wolverhampton Wanderers striker. (4 & 4)
- (2) Tommy ---th, Man. City defender.
- (3) Duncan ---, England's youngest full international.
- (4) Leeds United's ground. (6 & 4)
- (5) The current European Champions come from this town.
- (6) Transfer again for a fee, for instance.
- (9) The ---, home of Southampton.
- (10) --- Mirren, The Buddies.
- (13) ---ton Gate, Bristol City's ground.
- (14) R---h-al- (English Division Four). Signal system from the missing letters.
- (16) John Mc-----l of Norwich.
- (19) Queen --- the South play in the Scottish Second Division.
- (22) B---deaux. Which word completes the French League club?
- (24) -ver--- play at Goodison Park.
- (25) ---ctori- Ground, Stoke City.
- (26) Mick M---s of Ipswich Town.
- (27) ---or Road, Colchester United.
- (29) Number of occasions on which Argentina have won the World Cup.
- (32) Justin F---hanu of Norwich City.
- (33) ---merton Park, home of Newport County.

GO FOR SHOOT EVERY WEEK — STILL THE REAL NUMBER ONE IN FOOTBALL!

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

"ANDY RITCHIE can do almost anything with a ball," says one of his Morton team-mates. "He possesses so much talent, it's unbelievable!"

That sentence epitomises the happy-go-lucky, devil-may-care attitude at Cappielow at the moment as Morton bewilder opponents, confound critics and entertain fans with their own particular brand of enthusiastic, entrancing soccer.

Morton have gone from being 'just another club' to a team worthy of great respect, especially on their own tight, little ground in Greenock. Manager Benny Rooney guided them to the First Division Championship two seasons ago and a lot of critics thought they would make a rapid return to that same Division in 1978-79.

However, the Cappielow 'upstarts' have no intention of being one-season wonders. Rooney says: "We have now got

MORTON

for that point.

"However, our attitude now is to chase everything that is going. We had Rangers on the ropes towards the end of that match, but just failed to get a winner.

"And against Aberdeen at Pittodrie we were drawing 1-1, but always looking for the goal that would give us two points and eventually got it when big Andy Ritchie netted near the end."

So, Morton obviously do not lack in that valuable commodity of confidence. They are geared to attack and boss Benny Rooney — and his assistant Mike Jackson — are earning vast reputations in the Top Ten.

SPIRITS HIGH AT CAPPIELOW

confidence in ourselves and it is good to see the players expressing themselves. We are afraid of no one and have one of the best squads in Scotland.

"I can pick and choose for each individual game. No one is dropped... rested is a better word. I intend to use my pool to its full extent. We have players for all occasions here and I fully intend to keep my key players.

"We are not interested in selling anybody. We want them to stay here and then maybe we will attract the sort of crowds we deserve."

Ritchie, of course, is the number one pin-up boy, but he hastens to say: "This is not a one-man band. When I won the 'Player of the Year' title last season it was an honour not only for myself, but everyone at Morton."

That is the right attitude, and Morton certainly have that in abundance these days. They take on teams with confidence and go to places such as Parkhead, Ibrox and Pittodrie looking for both points.

As skipper Davie Hayes says: "When we lost our first game of the season against Celtic by the odd goal in five we were really angry with ourselves.

"We might have got a point when we hit a post in the last minute, but it wasn't to be. There might have been a time when we wouldn't have been too down-hearted after such a close result against Celtic. Not now, though.

"When we played Rangers at Ibrox we equalised to make the score 2-2 with ten minutes remaining. Again, in the past, we might have gone into defence and settled

After yet another victory — 2-0 over Dundee at Cappielow — Rooney showed his professional touch when he said: "Yes, it was good to pick up two points, but don't even start to think that that was the *real* Morton you saw out there.

"Because of the heavy weather we have to cut out the frills otherwise we will get bogged down. Players of proven ability were told to get that ball down the park as quickly as possible and it's not a pretty tactic.



Manager Benny Rooney (above) has established a new air of confidence at Morton, helped by players such as Neil Orr (left, dark strip) and exciting young striker Andy Ritchie (top, hoops).

"However, when our pitch is so heavy, little one-two's and intricate soccer can come grinding to a halt and mistakes can be made. My team didn't take any chances and we picked up the points, but remember, we can play a lot better than that."

Morton, founded in 1874, are now on the right tracks, looking to the future and gearing themselves for soccer in the 80's.

The fans are now beginning to talk about the present team where, in the not-too-distant past, their main subjects in soccer were players such as goalkeeper Jimmy Cowan, who picked up 25 caps for Scotland. He was a hero they thought would never be surpassed.

Penalty-area prince Allan McGraw knocked in a fantastic 51 goals in season 1963-64 and they said there would never be anyone at Morton to compare with him. Happily the talk has now switched to Roy Baines, Neil Orr, John McNeil, Bobby Thompson, Hayes, Ritchie and the other present-day stars.

There is a buzz going around Greenock. Fans are searching for their old blue-and-white scarves and going to cheer their ambitious, go-ahead local side.

It's an encouraging sight for Scottish soccer. The revival of Morton is welcomed by neutrals who constantly cry out for attacking soccer. The Greenock squad certainly provide that.

They parade fine talents and, as captain Hayes points out, they chase two points now in every game rather than being happy to settle for one.

MORTON



BACK ROW (left to right): Jim McCann, Alan McKeeman, George Anderson, Barry Evans, Roy Baines, Sammy Melville, Bobby Russell, Charlie Brown, Bobby Thompson, Joe McLaughlin.
MIDDLE ROW: Mike Jackson (asst. manager), Eddie McNab, Barry Smith, Jim Willie, David Rae, Billy McLaren, Stewart Mauchlin, Ally Scott, Neil Dr. Duncan McAuley, Jim Tolmie, Lindsay Hamilton (physio).

FRONT ROW: Eddie Morrison (coach), Andy Ritchie, Danny Docherty, Jim Holmes, Jimmy Miller, Benito Rooney (manager), Davis Hayes, John McNeil, Jim Rooney, John Craig, Willie Gray (trainer).

SHOOT!

PHIL BOYER
Southampton



SHOOT!

JIMMY: I heard you again the other day and I'm just about beginning to understand that peculiar accent of yours.

DENIS: Yes I heard you too with a name like that you ought to have been born a Scot.

JIMMY: Actually you're doing nearly as much talking now as you used to do on the field.

DENIS: Yes, well you know I really used to let the feet do the talking, but now they've given me a microphone there's no stopping me.

JIMMY: I was going to ask you, because you started in this radio business before I did, how you found your very first broadcast.

DENIS: I was terrified. Honestly, I don't mind telling you. I wasn't going to do it. The BBC had asked me to be the summariser for the Manchester "derby", and I was on the point of telling them 'no way' when a friend Paddy McGrath persuaded me to change my mind. So I went along on the Saturday expecting it to be easy, but what an eye-opener.

JIMMY: That's right. I couldn't

believe it either. I think we both started with the same commentators, Peter Jones and Alan Parry, and I was staggered at the amount of preparation they'd done. Both had mountains of notes about the 22 players, the referee, just about everything but the kitchen sink.

DENIS: You mentioned I started before you, but haven't you been interested in journalism a long time?

JIMMY: Yes and I'll bet you couldn't guess the first match I ever covered. It was Blackpool Metal Mechanics against the Fire Brigade! What happened was that the sports editor of the Blackpool Evening Gazette, Cliff Greenwood,

bad job to go into if I ever left football.

DENIS: Well I haven't moved in such high circles as that, but I did meet a lot of famous folk when I was in Argentina for the World Cup last year. That was a double bonus really. It's great still being able to go to major events like that, and I think mixing with the rest of the Radio Two lads on a day-by-day basis as opposed to once a week was a colossal boon — I learned an awful lot out there — and had some great laughs as well.

JIMMY: I think that's a very important point you've just made. I went on England's summer tour to Bul-

might have heard what I said — but they've been terrific.

JIMMY: Well that's excellent but do you find you get a lot of reaction to your radio work?

DENIS: An incredible amount, I wouldn't have believed it. In Argentina for example a chap came up to me and said he'd heard me the previous Saturday — and he lived and worked in Sao Paulo! He always listened to the sport on the BBC World Service and had actually bought one car rather than another because of the radio.

JIMMY: I'm amazed by the number of letters I get, and it's nice that people take such an interest and are so constructive in what they say.

DENIS: That's true and I think they appreciate that as former professional footballers we have opinions that are worth respecting. I'm very impressed by the knowledge of all the soccer reporters on BBC Radio, but I suppose people will accept what we say because we've actually played the game.

JIMMY: That's absolutely right and I find the managers and play-

SWITCH on the radio any Saturday afternoon these days and you'll hear two of the most respected names in football expressing their opinions in the most forthright and knowledgeable terms.

Denis Law, perhaps the greatest of all modern-day Scottish forwards, and Jimmy Armfield, first of England's overlapping full-backs are both employed by BBC Radio.

Here they get together to discuss their most recent performances in a way they would never have done ON the field.

CROSSTALK

asked me if I'd like to cover the game. Well being a professional footballer I had plenty of time on my hands so I went along, and they paid me three guineas.

DENIS: That was about the same as the maximum wage in those days.

JIMMY: It certainly helped supplement the income and eventually I was given my own column, with the blessing of the Blackpool manager at the time Ron Suart, and I suppose I've been interested ever since.

DENIS: It's funny really. I was entirely the other way. As a player I was often conscious of steering clear of the Press. Naturally I'd pass the time of day with the journalists I knew, but really I was quite a shy, nervous person, plus there wasn't the demand for interviews, especially on radio, that there is today.

JIMMY: Yes, funnily enough I didn't really get involved at all with radio until I became manager of Leeds United. Then I started doing interviews for Radio Leeds every week, and I was asked by their sports editor John Helm to do a series in which I talked to personalities like the Archbishop of York, Arthur Scargill, James Fox the film star, and Stan Barstow the playwright. I enjoyed it so much I started to think it wouldn't be a

garia, Sweden and Austria and like you I learned so much about the radio business just by being with the other lads all the time, that suddenly it all clicks into place. It's like playing in a team I suppose. The more familiar you become with the other players the better understanding you achieve. Incidentally all the stories I heard about you in Argentina must have been untrue. They said you were broadcasting from a toilet!

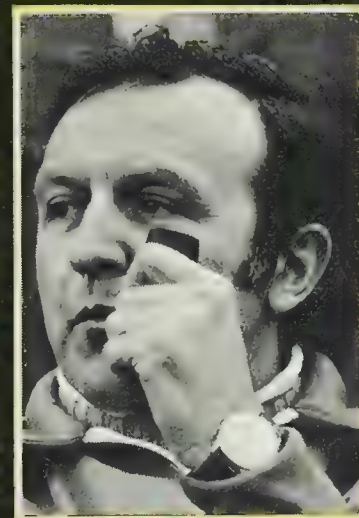
DENIS: That's right. You wouldn't have believed it. In Cordoba where Scotland played their first two matches, our studio was in a hotel, and when they lashed up the equipment, the only decent place they could get a signal from into Buenos Aires was the toilet! I actually fell into the bath once while I was being interviewed by Bryon Butler!

JIMMY: I think my worst experience was at Sunderland last season. If somebody said there were only three games played in the whole of Britain that day you'd never have guessed that one of them was at Sunderland — but it was. It took me four-and-a-half hours to get there by car, the snow was freezing on the microphone during the game, it was too cold to write any notes.

DENIS: Well I'm sure the fee and all those travelling expenses to Sunderland cheered you up.

JIMMY: You must be joking. By the way that was also the first time that supporters have actually stayed on after the final whistle and crowded round me to hear the report. It was a bit embarrassing actually. Do you ever get that?

DENIS: Well yes, but I can honestly say that the fans have been terrific. One of the greatest fears I had when I started in radio was walking to the ground with the fans or even worse after it when they



'I always wanted to be a journalist'

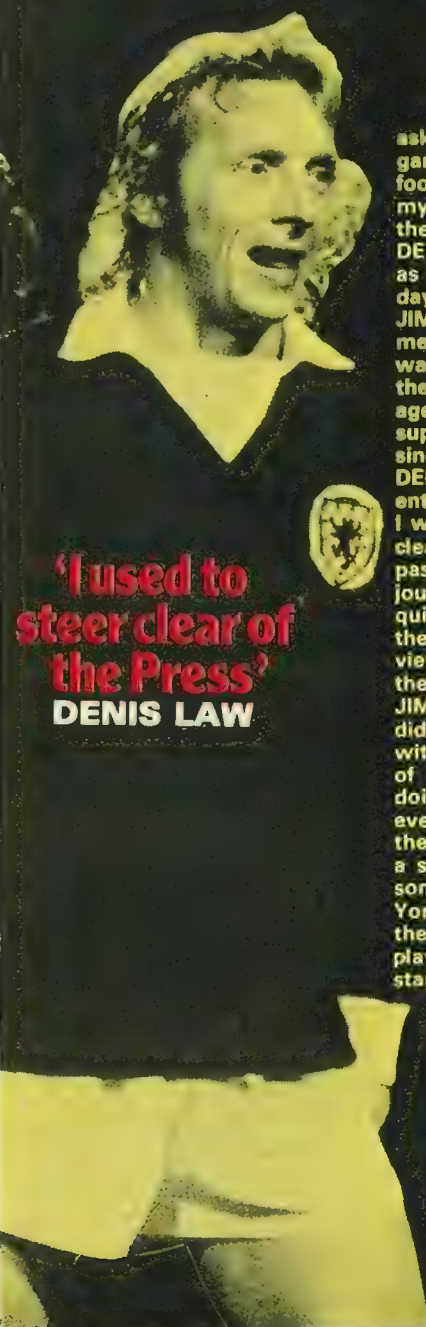
JIMMY ARMFIELD

ers are most helpful and appreciative of the work we do. I think in a way they see us as protection because we know something about the game.

DENIS: Yes although the funny thing is that I always thought I knew plenty about football, and it wasn't until I started in this business that I realised I knew nothing. I know far more now having worked in radio for two or three years than I did after nearly 20 years as a player.

JIMMY: It's certainly an intriguing job, and although I miss the day-to-day involvement with a club and players, and funnily enough the aggro, I'm enjoying myself on radio and writing a column for a national paper so much it would take a lot to tempt me back.

DENIS: Yes I doubt if I'll ever go back to soccer in an active sense now — so Peter Jones had better watch out. I'm after his job.



'I used to steer clear of the Press'
DENIS LAW

WHAT did you think of yours truly on the cover? Don't make a bad Father Christmas do I? I expect I'll take some stick from the lads when they see this week's special edition of SHOOT, but I don't care. It's all in good fun . . . and there hasn't been much of that for Forest on the domestic front recently.

There won't be much chance of relaxing and enjoying ourselves over the festive period, either.

As you know Forest travel to Manchester United on Saturday (December 22) for what should be match of the day.

Ian Bowyer scored our goal in a 1-1 draw last season. Don't be fooled by the scoreline. It was a corker of a game, action all the way.

According to my brother, Forest stand no chance this weekend. Like me he's a United fan. We used to cheer on The Reds together as kids, but I had to curb my allegiance when I arrived at the City Ground. He'll be there hoping our appalling away record in the League continues for another week at least.

Still, Forest enjoy playing at Old Trafford and our luck must change

sometime soon.

Aston Villa should hold no fears for Forest at the City Ground on Boxing Day, but we thought the same about Brighton a few weeks ago and look what they did to us.

Ron Saunders appears to have solved some of Villa's problems and they're a much improved side lately.

Forest beat them 4-0 in last season's corresponding game.

A similar scoreline in our favour will make an ideal Christmas present to our fans.

Before I go on I feel I should say a few words of condemnation at the recent behaviour of a Forest supporter during the match against Arsenal.

The mindless idiot who threw a dart at Gunners' keeper Pat Jennings. It stuck in his arm, but fortunately no serious damage was done.

This has got to stop before someone is seriously injured. All of us at Forest were shocked and saddened by this incident.

I am glad the culprit has been found and punished. To that person and similar morons among the Forest supporters I have this message from all the players . . . stay at home. We don't want you at the City Ground or anywhere where there's decent people trying to enjoy a Saturday afternoon's football.

The Saturday after Christmas Forest travel to Highfield Road, Coventry. My dad will be at the match. He follows Forest



Aston Villa (dark shirt) should hold no fears for Forest.

everywhere.

Like Forest, The Sky Blues are having an inconsistent season. But they are capable of turning it on, especially at home, as they proved by beating Ipswich 4-1 recently.

Striker Mick Ferguson, a target of Ipswich boss Bobby Robson at the time, scored all four Coventry goals that afternoon.

Unfortunately on our last visit to Coventry neither side were able to break the deadlock and the match ended 0-0.

Let's hope there's more for the fans to cheer this time.

New Year's Day, Forest face

another tough match in prospect when we take on Everton at Goodison.

Gordon Lee's team have struggled to find their form this season and victory over the European Champions would give them a tremendous boost.

We also drew at Goodison last season, 1-1, thanks to a point-saving goal by Colin Barrett.

Like most players I'd welcome a two week break at Christmas so we could enjoy the occasion. But this will never happen.

Even though festivities for players have to be restricted I still look forward to Christmas.

Strenuous

Forest will be training on December 25th as usual, but I don't expect it will be too strenuous.

After training I'll drive straight to my parent's house to have lunch with the family.

Even though I won't be around much I've put up the decorations and have a tree with all the trimmings.

Every available shelf is full of Christmas cards from Forest fans, SHOOT readers, friends . . . and one from a kiddie from Cairo.

He writes thanking Forest for their recent visit to Egypt and hopes we'll return in the New Year.

Thanks for your good wishes. We enjoyed our four day stay in one of the world's most historic countries.

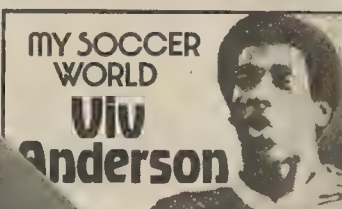
We beat a Cairo Select 3-1 before a 25,000 crowd and received a tremendous reception.

The rest of the time was spent relaxing and sightseeing. We went to see the Sphinx and pyramids.

We were given the opportunity of having a camel ride but turned it down.

Well, have a Happy Christmas and a joyous New Year.

Greetings from Cairo



*Are the Best
Viv Anderson*



**NEXT
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● George Best in Scotland.

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**Turbo
Talk**
DEREK
JOHNSTONE

A COUPLE of weeks ago I was ashamed of some of the so-called fans who say they support Rangers.

I'm a firm believer in fans being allowed to have their say, but when it becomes mindless and stupid then that is an entirely different matter. Unless you have been living on the moon recently you will have noted that Rangers have hit a bit of a slump.

When we went down 3-1 to Dundee at Dens Park it was our fourth consecutive defeat and a run like that obviously concerns everyone at Ibrox.

However, when the fans started to chant things against the gaffer, John Greig, I felt sick. It was an absolute disgrace to turn on the boss like that.

Thankfully, the *real* supporters still got behind the team even when we were losing 3-0 and these are the fans the team needs at the moment. We can happily live without those who prefer to shout for the resignation of our manager!

What short memories these people have. They seem to forget all that John Greig has done for this club in his many years at Ibrox.

I've got to be honest and say there were times when Rangers got results in the past simply because John Greig was on the field and urging the players to greater efforts.

Ridiculous

He went through the bad times, but he still captained the club to that European Cup-Winners' Cup victory in 1972, and in his last three years as a player he twice led the team to domestic trebles.

Now when the side is going through a bad phase the loud-mouths turn against him. It's a ridiculous state of affairs.

No one has more ambition for Rangers than Mr. Greig. He is the epitome of an Ibrox player and manager. Obviously he is concerned about the slump, but he will sort it out.

Every team goes through these spells. You've got to endure them and work out the answers to the problems. I'll tell you one thing... no one at Ibrox has let his head drop.

We are not downhearted despite the silly criticism. If someone comes up with something con-

structive that is great. But what is the point of yelling abuse at the players you are supposed to be supporting? I can't see much sense in it.

This is a time when everyone concerned with Rangers must join together and help the club to get back on the right rails. We need encouragement. We need cheers. We do NOT need discouragement. We do NOT need jeers.

Like I said earlier, the fans pay their money and they are entitled to have their say. That is their right, but I ask them to think

RANGERS NEED CHEERS NOT JEERS'

before they slam their team and pick on the manager.

No one works harder at Ibrox than the boss. But he has enough pressure on him at the moment without anyone else adding to it. So my message this week is simple: Lay off John Greig and give him the time he needs to get the team ticking over again.

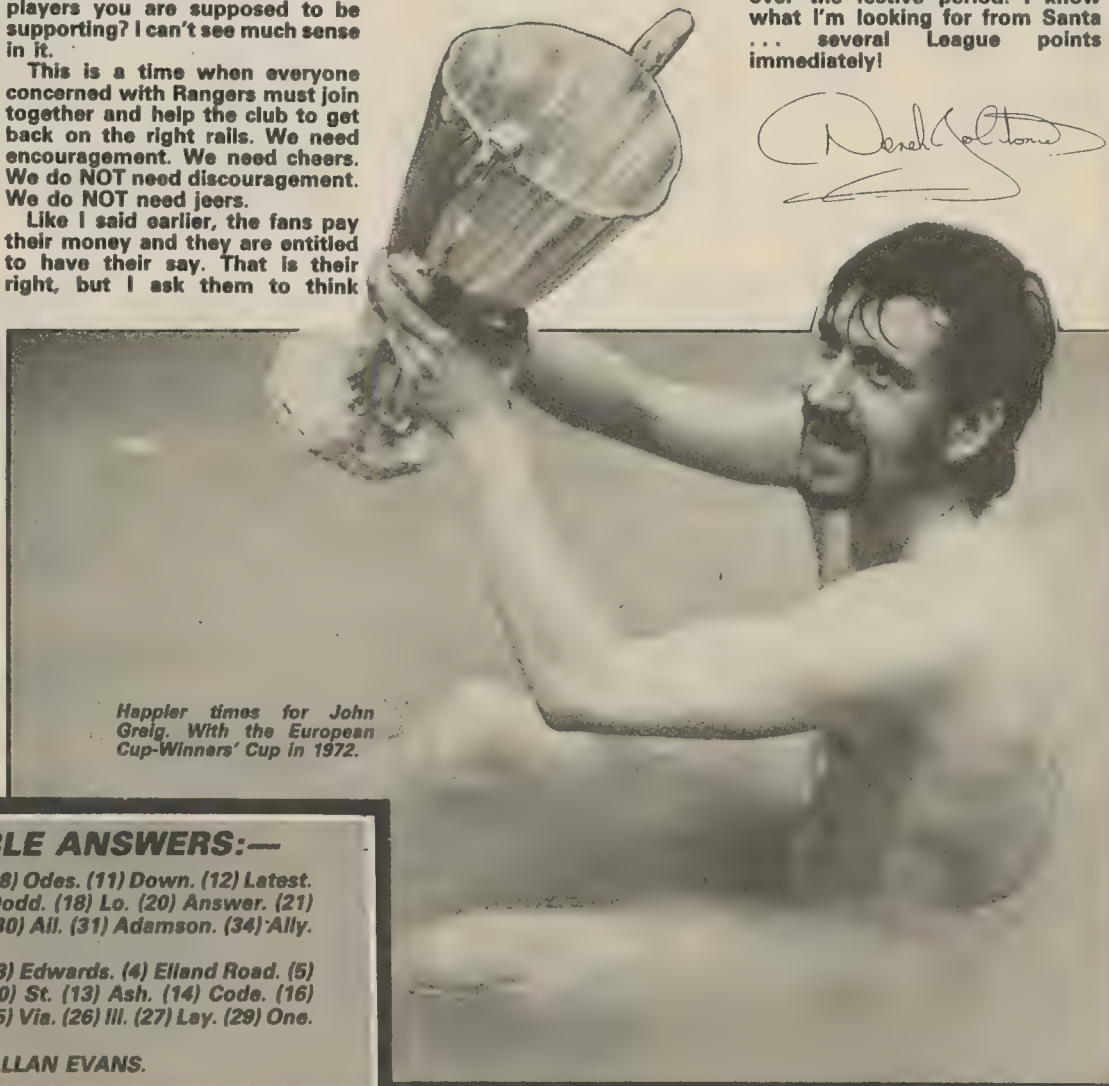
Remember, he took us to the League Cup and Scottish Cup double last season in his first spell in the hot seat. There aren't many managers around who can say the same.

On Saturday (December 22) we travel to play Hibs at Easter Road and that, of course, could mean a confrontation with George Best. Like I said a couple of weeks ago in my column, I wish the former Manchester United player the best — no pun intended — of luck, but I hope he won't mind me saying that I don't think he'll be picking up a win bonus at Easter Road this time out.

George certainly means business as he tries to get himself back in peak condition and we hope it will be an attractive and entertaining game. We have beaten Hibs twice already this season in the League and will be looking for the hat-trick on Saturday.

By the way, I would like to take this opportunity of wishing all SHOOT readers the best of fortune over the festive period. I know what I'm looking for from Santa... several League points immediately!

Derek Johnstone



Happier times for John Greig. With the European Cup-Winners' Cup in 1972.

GO FOR THE DOUBLE ANSWERS:—

ACROSS:— (1) Aberdeen. (7) Nod. (8) Odes. (11) Down. (12) Latest. (14) Castle. (15) Gordon Hill. (17) Dodd. (18) Lo. (20) Answer. (21) Go. (23) Ochre. (25) Villa. (28) To. (30) All. (31) Adamson. (34) Ally. (35) One.

DOWN:— (1) Andy Gray. (2) Boo. (3) Edwards. (4) Elland Road. (5) Nottingham. (6) Resell. (9) Dell. (10) St. (13) Ash. (14) Code. (16) Dowel. (19) Of. (22) Or. (24) Eton. (25) Via. (26) Ill. (27) Lay. (29) One. (32) As. (33) So.

Jumbled Name: ALLAN EVANS.

STARS OF THE



AQUARIUS (January 22-February 20). You are the independent type, perhaps with artistic or scientific interests; an individualist and you tend to like unusual things. You are a quick thinker too and you have an inventive mind.

Phil Boyer (SOUTHAMPTON)

DEAR ME, it sounds like a bit of a mixed bag as far as I'm concerned. I am independent, that part of it is true but I'm not in the slightest bit artistic. I don't think my play on the football field could be described as very artistic.

I guess everyone could be called something of an individualist. But I would agree that I am a quicker thinker. All players must be alert, but it particularly applies to me in my position. Quick thinking is the key to a forward position... the ability to outsmart a defender. Maybe if I run into a defender who is also born under this sign, then I'll be in trouble!

An inventive mind? Good heavens, that needs thinking about. I suppose translated into football terms, an inventive mind might mean I like creating goals and I suppose that's true. I used to create a few for Ted MacDougall and I imagine that is one interpretation of being

inventive.

Overall, I suppose a few bits and pieces tie in with my characteristics but really, I would say a great deal of it is wide of the mark. I do read the stars but they never correspond to what is happening in my life — or very seldom anyway. I don't have that close interest in them, I must admit.



PISCES (February 21-March 20). You are the idealist, the perfectionist and sometimes the fad! When you aren't day dreaming you like to travel. You are the adventurous type, loving freedom and excitement and you are not afraid to take chances. Patience is also one of your virtues. You have the ability to encourage people, you are very sensitive and your hunches are usually spot on.

Alan Biley (CAMBRIDGE)

I HAVE never really given much thought to horoscopes. I read them, just a glance and if they're good I will go along with them but if they are bad, then I brush them aside.

Encouragement? Well, like every good professional I try to encourage the lads around me in the side. I am sensitive to the fact that every player needs a different approach. You can shout at some and they will accept it; others will just go moody half-way through a game if you yell at them.

Intuition? I must admit I usually have a feeling as to how the game will go and whether it is to be my day or not. So that sounds remarkably like me, that bit at least.

But as for the other things, I have mixed feelings. Idealist and perfectionist doesn't sound too much like me and I'm not very keen on travelling to away matches. I like freedom, especially on the football field but

unfortunately there isn't a great deal of that going from defenders these days. I'm certainly not afraid to take chances — what striker is? And I do like the excitement of scoring goals so I suppose that ties in well, too.

But I'm not really sure that having Pisces as my sign really indicates my approach to the game. There are other things the stars don't tell about me — but I'm not letting on about those in case there are any defenders reading this!



ARIES (March 21-April 20). This is the sign of the ram and as you might expect, it means that you have lots of drive and energy and will probably do well in life. You cannot sit still for long and are always on the go, trying new things. You have plenty of personality and charm, too.

Tony Towers (BIRMINGHAM CITY)

PEOPLE who follow the stars are a bit superstitious and that's not me at all. I would happily go out in the number 13 shirt each Saturday — it wouldn't worry me.

But I think the first part is true — you could say I have drive and energy. All midfield players need that to drive on the side. It's a position on the field where you do need lots of energy to help the front men and then get back into defence.

I think the part referring to doing well in life, is also quite accurate. I have been very fortunate, I've had lots of success and have won many individual honours. It is every footballer's ambition to play for his country and I have done that.

I have also been in a few Cup Finals, won a Second Division Championship and a European medal in the Cup-Winners' Cup. I have achieved plenty in football.

The part about not sitting still is also true. My wife thinks I'm something of a jack in the box; I am always on the move and wandering around. You have always got to try new things in football.

The odd thing about this is that everything seems to fit me pretty well. Strange really when I have never believed in the stars.



TAURUS (April 21-May 21). Those born under this sign usually have excellent taste and love beautiful things. You may be artistic, too, and you like comfort and romance. In fact you have a lot of drive when it comes to getting on in the world and you are persistent enough to hang on to your success.

Peter Sayer (BRIGHTON)

THEY'VE got the first part right — I like the best. And that's why I am with Brighton and our manager Alan Mullery; he's one of the best in the business. Seriously though, I do like beautiful things even when they're expensive. I have just moved into a new flat in Brighton so I'm hunt-

ing for things to go in it. I tend to be expensive which perhaps I shouldn't be.

I hate being uncomfortable but when it comes to romance, I'm not going to be so definite. I'll just say I'm in love with the game!

I haven't got loads of drive. I wouldn't say I've got a strong personality, either... perhaps they're thinking of our captain Brian Horton when they say that!

But yes, I would be persistent. I work hard to hold on to my place in any side so that probably fits. Overall, I'd say the stars are a total generalisation in certain aspects. They can be completely wrong and although I thought seriously about looking into the whole question of the stars at one time.

The one question I would like answered is — what does the future hold for Brighton this season? Answers on a postcard please...! Unfortunately, there is no way you can tell about that until much nearer the close of the season. If the stars could tell me that, I would take them seriously.



ZODIAC

12 players compare their star sign qualities with their own characteristics



GEMINI (May 22-June 21) You are a very sociable sort of person and would be an asset at any party. You are light hearted, quick witted, versatile and very self expressive. You are also a great believer in instincts and are not afraid to follow your nose.

Duncan McKenzie

(BLACKBURN ROVERS)

I SUPPOSE you've got to say it's almost uncanny the way these things seem to match up with me. I don't follow the stars — I think they're a lot of rubbish personally. The wife is interested in them but I have never really followed them.

But it's remarkable how many characteristics seem to fit, in my particular case. I think anyone who knows me fairly well would say I'm a sociable sort of person, light hearted is certainly true and quick witted, as well.

Self expressive is obviously true — I have always been the sort of player to express myself in any game. I follow my nose wherever football is concerned; I'm the kind of player who goes off in any direction if I see a gap or think there's a chance of an opening.

So the part about instincts is also pretty accurate and, in fact, the whole thing is astonishingly accurate. The only dubious part

is 'versatile' ... I don't know about that. I've never played anywhere but as a striker so that's not so true. But apart from that, the stars seem to have me taped. Maybe I should start worrying about what they foretell — but I don't think I will. I'll leave that to the wife!!



CANCER (June 22-July 22) Emotionally, you are subtle and rather sensitive so that you often get very tensed up and worried. You are persistent, though, and ambitious in a quiet way. You have the capacity to decide what is important, what is not. You are a respecter of traditions and conventions. Sensitivity to domestic unity is also there somewhere within your make-up.

John Pratt

(TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR)

THE point about what is important and what is not, is certainly true about me. I do like to get my priorities sorted out on the football field because I feel it is one of the most important aspects of the game. If you are indecisive the opposition will take you to the cleaners.

Again, the point about traditions is correct. I feel we should uphold them. We have gone from reserves to substitutes; from extra-time to shoot-outs, and where is it going to end? If we follow the American way of selling football we will be seeing instant action replays while the game is in progress. I just hope that we resist the razzmatazz and keep playing good old English style football.

The only thing I can think of relating to domestic unity is giving more time and consideration to our families to watch football in comfort. At present, very little is being done in this direction.

I would agree I get tensed-up

and worried before matches. My nerves sometimes stretch a bit, especially prior to big games. I am persistent, that is a trademark of my game. I will always keep trying no matter what the situation or state of the game. And I am certainly ambitious, not only in a quiet way. I want to see Spurs do well again and that ambition is very much a part of me. Anyone who sees me play will agree with that point.

So in all, it's not a bad portrayal of myself.



LEO (July 23-August 22) This is the sign of the lion and your qualities include the ability to lead, and a talent for planning and administration. You are very strong mentally and enjoy the feeling of power over others.

Phil Parkes

(WEST HAM UTD.)

THE first one doesn't fit this particular cap — try Billy Bonds if you want the ability to lead. He's about the best example I can think of to fit that category!

Certainly, I have never been captain and haven't considered it among my greatest attributes, the ability to lead others.

But planning is a little closer, if you put it into a footballing context. I have to take charge of defensive situations and organise them at set moves in and around our penalty-area.

Off the field, I do my own planning for the work around the house. I do my own expansion work, and am drawing plans up for the work to be done. Carpentry is my hobby but in terms of administration, I do all the household requirements. But if it means I'm an office type and fanatic for ploughing through reams of paper and figures, forget it ... nothing could be further from the truth.

Very strong mentally? I hope so. You need a bit of backbone if you're a goalie — in more ways than one. I haven't had the feeling that I would crack up any time under pressure but then I guess I wouldn't be playing top class football if I was like that. It's no good buckling under pressure in this business because there is plenty of it.

The last item about power over others? I can't think what that one means. I don't particularly like the sound of it ... I certainly don't think it applies to me — I hope!



VIRGO (August 23-September 22) You are the perfectionist, the critic, the craftsman. You like to do things well and are not afraid of hard work although you tend to expect others to have the same standards as you, and can be too exacting sometimes. You have a strong sense of duty and are very astute where business matters are concerned.

Billy Bonds

(WEST HAM UTD.)

IT SOUNDS like a joke. I should say I haven't got the slightest interest in the stars.

However, I guess I am a bit of a perfectionist. I like to do things well and see everyone doing them properly, especially when it comes to football. Hard work? That's certainly me. I have never been afraid of that as anyone in the football world will know. It's

a big part of my game and I love it, including training.

Maybe the part about expecting others to do the same is also true. I do tend to expect 100 per cent from everyone else in the side; I give that and more and expect everyone else to do the same. Maybe I am too exacting at times, I don't know. Perhaps you should ask my team-mates about that! A strong sense of duty? Yes, I suppose so. I don't think I've ever let my clubs down ... West Ham or Charlton ... because it's not in my nature. You should always give your very best for your side because it is your duty. They're paying you so they should get your best. But then that applies in any walk of life, as far as I'm concerned. If a thing is worth doing, it's worth doing properly.

I'm not a great one for business because I concentrate on football. There are the usual household things but that's not much of a test. Perhaps you should talk to some of the other successful footballing businessmen for an answer on that one.

continued overleaf



STARS OF THE ZODIAC CONTINUED



LIBRA (September 23-October 22) You are the friendly type, the tactful one who smooths things over, and the lover of peace and comfort. You are also subtle and have a shrewd mind which means that you can see people as they really are. You are aware of your obligations to other people and always repay your debts.

Brian Flynn (LEEDS UTD.)

THAT isn't a bad description of me. Certainly, I am a fairly quiet and stable character. Although I'm pretty small, I do sometimes



try to calm things down if there is any trouble on the field. I don't think anything is worth getting so steamed up about that you want to sort people out there and then. It's much better to get on with the game so liking peace is pretty apt.

I don't know so much about seeing people as they really are but the awareness of obligations to others is very true. I am part of a team in whichever side I'm in... like a cog in a wheel. I believe you are there for the team and you are only as good as the lads around you.

Friendly? Not to opponents, not likely. But off the field I am. I always forget things after the match... whatever goes on during a match is forgotten afterwards.

I suppose if you are a thinker about the game, you might be described as shrewd. I think about how we can improve on our last performance.

Yes, overall, it all seems to fit rather well in my case. Maybe I'll start paying more attention to what the stars say. I haven't bothered too much in the past but it does look as though it ties in with my character.



SCORPIO (October 23-November 21) This is the sign of the scorpion and those born under it are forceful, courageous and emotional. You are impulsive in your ideas, friendships and also in making enemies as you tend to be too suspicious of people. You are very single minded and are contemptuous of weakness. You are physically strong, too.

John Richards (WOLVES)



COURAGEOUS and physically strong — they're two pretty important qualities for any striker, whatever Division of football he's playing in. It's a case of stick your head in where others fear to tread; you have to be ready to score goals at all costs, and put up with the knocks and injuries.

I don't think I'm impulsive or make enemies — I'm an honest player therefore neither of these two apply.

I'm not contemptuous of a player's weakness but if any of the opposing side has one then I would obviously take advantage. I'd be making life harder than it need be if I didn't!

I'm single minded in that my one aim on the field is to score goals. I'm confident I can score a goal a game and if I don't, then I'm disappointed. I feel that's especially the case since Andy Gray arrived in our side.

I will look at horoscopes and have a laugh at them sometimes — but I never take them seriously. If you believed in them, they could ruin your life. There would be days when you would be scared to go outside your front door. No, they're not for me to any serious extent!



SAGITTARIUS (November 22-December 21) You are the explorer, the freedom lover and you hate to feel restricted or cooped up. You also have a thirst for knowledge and you may be a student or teacher. You are very aware of the problems around you and are prepared to take a stand for your beliefs. You are, in addition, enthusiastic, self confident and expect things to turn out well. Fair, spreading goodwill; easily bored, you love changing scenes.

John Burridge (CRYSTAL PALACE)

I'm afraid that doesn't apply to me but perhaps I should give some credit where it's due. I must admit horoscopes are usually right on the ball, where I'm concerned. And they're certainly spot on in saying I'm enthusiastic. It is me to an absolute tee. Football is my life, I love the game. I'm never out of a track suit, I wear it seven days a week.



I even visited my wife in hospital in it so that shows you how enthusiastic I am.

I train hard, play hard but there is always room for a laugh. After all, football is about entertainment.

Self confident? That one sounds spot on, too. That's what makes me a good goalkeeper. Without confidence, you're dead in my line of business.

Perhaps the bit about being a teacher isn't so wide of the mark as it might seem. Every team I've played for has done well and I seem to be able to make people believe in themselves. I bully them into wanting to be better players!

Yes, I'm also easily bored and get restless. Perhaps that's why I've had my share of football clubs. But now I feel settled and Palace has probably changed me. The only change I want right now is for Palace to change places with Liverpool and be the number one club in the land!

As for the rest, I don't think too much else applies to me.

I'll only take horoscopes seriously if they foretell the First Division Championship title for Crystal Palace. I'll be very interested then.



CAPRICORN (December 22-January 21) You are a hard worker by nature and like things to be well organised. You have a strong moral sense and are very fair-minded and practical. You tend to put your aims before your comforts, too, and would probably enjoy life more if you were a little more light-hearted in your approach.

Dixie McNeil (WREXHAM)

I'M a hard worker at my job... that is very true. John Richards probably says the same thing — Alan Biley, Phil Boyer and Duncan McKenzie, too. We have to stick together us strikers!

But in a more general sense, I'm not much of a worker at home, I'm not as good there. Or at least that's what the wife is always telling me. Well organised? Yes. Football is all about organisation and discipline. If you have them on the football field, I believe it helps you a great deal.

I must admit I can't stand players who try and cheat so perhaps my allegedly strong moral sense is wrapped up somewhere in that. I like to think I'm practical, too, and I put aims before comforts. That shows in my play or at least I hope it does. It ought to where any striker is concerned.

But the last part isn't true — I am fairly light hearted anyway. But overall I'd say that is a pretty good summary of me.

I am a little superstitious in one way. I will look at my stars...



but only on a Sunday AFTER a match. I'll never look at them before a game because they might foretell bad things ahead. And I'd be a bit wary after that. If they reckon I've got a bad day ahead of me, I don't want to know about it!

I look pretty regularly at the stars and what they say. But one thing my stars have never said which I'm disappointed about... they've yet to tell me I'm going to win the pools. I wouldn't mind reading that anytime.

One star leaves...another arrives

TONY Woodcock made the best possible start with Cologne. He did not play a blinder on his debut against Bochum, but was quietly effective. He didn't score the winner, but made the telling pass for Littbarski to shoot home. Tony did enough to inspire confidence, without setting himself too high a standard as a couple of goals would have done.

He realised life in Cologne was different when he was presented with a young pig on his arrival; it's a traditional gift and you have to take it home, fatten it up — and enjoy it.

It's still early days, of course, and after just three weeks in Germany, the Woodcocks were planning their return 'home' for Christmas. Even so, it is already obvious that 'Woodcock', as the Germans call him, has met none of the hostility Kevin Keegan faced in Hamburg.

Keegan met hostility from certain team-mates, who wouldn't speak to him off the field and wouldn't pass to him on it. The Cologne players have not disguised their joy at having Woodcock in their team, because ever since Nottingham Forest beat them in that memorable European Cup Semi-Final last season, the Cologne dressing-room has buzzed with admiration for the 24-year-old England star.

Cologne eventually got their man; he cost them £650,000. Had they waited until next June, they could have had him for £500,000, the U.E.F.A. maximum under the new ruling after a player's contract has expired. In effect, they've paid £150,000 for an extra six months of Woody, but nobody is complaining.

Tony and his wife, Carole, have dined with some of his new team-mates, many of whom speak English. "Once we get ourselves

Ron Greenwood in turn is delighted that his young striker is under the wing of a coach he has the utmost respect for; he knows Weisweiler can only improve Woodcock's already considerable technique. "If Germany does to Tony what it did for Kevin it will benefit England. In fact, I wouldn't mind all my players out there!" joked the England boss.

Comparisons with Keegan are unfair, but inevitable — "We're both English and both forwards. I want to be Tony Woodcock and have my own identity," he says.

Woody still feels a lot of affection for his old club, but says he had to make the break. "The chance may not have come along again. I was undecided whether to go. In fact, I told Cologne 'No'. The general manager said how disappointed all the players would be as they'd talked so much about playing with me.

"I've never had anything like that said to me before and I realised just how much they wanted me. Had I stayed at Forest, I would never have had the identity of Trevor Francis or Peter Shilton, so Cologne are the ideal chance for me to build a reputation."

Forest's loss will, no doubt, be Cologne's and England's gain.

Classy Claudio — the Italian Argentine

CLAUDIO Marangoni became the sixth Argentine to join the Football League when he signed for Sunderland, following Osvaldo Ardiles and Ricardo Villa (Spurs), Alex Sabella and Pedro Verde (Sheffield Utd.) and the now departed Alberto Tarantini (Birmingham).

Yet the 24-year-old former San Lorenzo midfielder player has dual-nationality. One reason why his arrival was delayed is that he took out Italian nationality (his father is Italian) to ensure there were no problems with his registration. Claudio was not even in Argentina's preliminary World Cup squad of 40, let alone the final 22; as an Italian citizen there would be no problems as Italy, as course, are in the E.E.C.

Marangoni's transfer is rather confused. He was first approached in Buenos Aires some months ago by Arsenal's Terry Neill after The Gunners had been given good reports of the player following his performances in the Japan Cup in which Spurs also took part.

Arsenal lost interest, but Marangoni was keen to come to England and a trial with Wolves was arranged. The Molineux club were impressed but again with the delay, interest was lost.

The ironic part is that in September, newspaper reports in Argentina put Marangoni's price at £200,000, some £120,000 less than Ken Knighton actually paid to bring him to Roker Park.

Even so, Marangoni arrived in England with good references. He speaks English, so does his wife, Monica, an Argentine girl of Irish descent. He's played for six years in the Metropolitan League in Argentina.

Unlike many Argentinians, Marangoni doesn't hold on to the ball too long, can head the ball firmly and his temperament is ideal.

He says: "It's a dream come true. England is a marvellous country to play in as there is so much respect for the footballer. I feel a lot better here.

"I became tired of waiting for an opportunity at home. Now, I have the chance to improve myself as a player and a person. Financially I'll be a lot better off.

"I was naturally disappointed that I didn't make Menotti's final squad of 22 for the World Cup. I feel I had the ability.

"Ardiles and Villa have proved Argentine players can adapt to English football and I aim to prove very quickly I can, too."

Woodcock (left) shrugs off a challenge from Bochum defender Jupp Tenhagen. Claudio Marangoni (right), Sunderland's Argentinian.

WOODY MAKES HIS DEUTSCH MARK

sorted out, we'll be taking intensive lessons in German," says Tony. "Kevin told me that one night a week he and Jean used to speak nothing but German. They felt a bit silly, but it helped."

After the Cologne-Bochum game, Woodcock went on German television with Keegan, who acted as interviewer-translator. Tony said three words in German — "I like it!"

At a reported £100,000 per year, plus a lot more in commercial deals, Woody will certainly like life in Cologne. There are no fears about his England career as he has a watertight clause in his contract.

Anyway, Cologne coach, Hennes Weisweiler, says: "We want Tony to play for England. It is good for us."



FOCUS ON

TONY CURRIE

QUEENS PARK RANGERS



FULL NAME: Anthony William Currie
BIRTHPLACE: Edgware, London
BIRTHDATE: 1st January, 1950
HEIGHT: 5ft 11ins
WEIGHT: 12st 9lbs
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Watford, Sheffield United, Leeds
MARRIED: To Linda
CHILDREN: Sharon, Ryan, Natalie
CAR: Ford Granada 2.8 GL
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Jimmy Greaves
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Leeds United
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: No one in particular
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: England v Brazil, 1978
BIGGEST THRILL: Playing for England

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: England failing to qualify for 1974 World Cup Finals
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: Holland
FAVOURITE FOOD: Steak
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Good food, good refs
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Ignorant people
FAVOURITE T.V. SHOWS: Two Ronnies and any sports programmes
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Leo Sayer and Elton John
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Ryan O'Neill and Barbra Streisand
BEST FRIEND: I have quite a few
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My uncles and John Harris, manager when I

was at Sheffield United
BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Being injured
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: England Youth, Under-23 and full caps
PERSONAL AMBITION: To be happy
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To play in the World Cup Finals
IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE? Fed up
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? The Queen, at Wembley

Tony Currie

SHOOT!